

N_S
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N A S H E S

Lenten Stiffe,

Containing,

The Description and first Procrea-
tion and Increase of the towne of
Great Yarmouth in
Norffolke:

With a new Play neuer played before, of the
praise of the R E D
HERRING.

Fitte of all Clearkes of Noblemens Kitchins to be
read: and not vnnecessary by all Seruинг men
that haue short boord-wages, to be remembred.

Famam pecto per undas.



L O N D O N

Printed for N. L. and C. B. and are to be
sold at the west end of Paulcs.

1599.

Descriptio Magnæ Ciuitatis Yarmouth
Item lawis et preparatio Halecis /
665

2325-AV

Large

The Description of the

City and Province of

Great Yunnan

Notes

With a Map of the Province of

the R.F.D.

Map

With a Description of the Country and the

People of the Province of Yunnan

With a Description of the Country and the

People of Yunnan

Large

Yunnan

With a Description of the Country and the

People of Yunnan

2325



To his worthie good patron, Lustie Humfrey, according as the townsmen doo christen him, little Numps as the Nobilitie and Courtiers do name him, and Honest Humfrey, as all his friendes and acquaintance esteeme him, King of the Tobacconists hic & ubique, and a singular Mecenas to the Pipe and the Tabour (as his patient liuery attendant can witnesse) his bounden Orator
T. N. most prostrately offers vp this tribute
of inke and paper.



Oſt courteous unlearned louer of Poetry, and yet a Poet thy ſelfe, of no leſſe price then H. S. that in honour of Maid-marrian giues sweete Margera for his Emprefſe, and puttes the ſome moſt ſawcily vpon ſome great perſonage, what euer ſhe bee, bidding her (as it runnes in the old ſong) Go from my

Garden go, for there no flowers for thee dooth grow. These be to notifie to your diminutive excelſitude, and compendiate greatnessſe, what my zeale is towardes you, that in no ſtreigh-ter bonds woulde bee poounded and enlifted, then in an Epiftie Dedicatore. Too many more lusty bloud Brauamente ſeigniors, with Cales beards, as bronde as ſcutlers maples, that they make

The Epistle

cleane their boates with, could I haue turned it ouer, and had no-
thing for my labour, some faire woords except, of, good, sir will it
please you to come neere, and drinke a cuppe of wine? after my re-
turne from Ireland I doubt not but my fortunes will be of some
growth to requite you. In the meane time my sword is at your
commaund; and before God, money so scatteringly runnes heere
and there vpon utensilia, furnitures, ancients, and other neces-
sary preparations, (and which is a double charge, looke how much
Tobacco wee carry with vs to expell cold, the like quantitie of
Staues-aker wee must provide vs of to kill lice in that rugged
country of rebels) that I say unto you in the word of a marria-
list, wee cannot doo as wee woud. I am no incredulous Didimus,
but haue more fayth to beleue they haue no coyne, then they
haue meanes to supple themselves with it, and so leaue them. To
any other carpetmunger or primrose knight of Primera, bring I
a dedication and the dice ouer night haue not befriended him, hee
sleepeſ five dayes and five nightes to new ſkin his beautie, and will
not bee knowne hee is awaſt till his men vpon their owne bondes
(a diſmall world for trenchermen, when theyr maifters bond ſhall
not be ſo good as theirs) haue tooke vp commodities or fresh drop-
pings of the minte for him: and then, what then? he payes for the
ten dozen of batles hee left vpon the ſcore at the tennis court,
hee ſendes for his Barber to depare, decurtate, and punge him,
whome haſing not paide a twelmonth before, he now raiſes downe
eight quarter angels into his haſe, to make his liberaltie ſeeme
greater, and giues him a caſt riding ierkin, and an olde Spaniſh
hatte into the bergaine, and Gods peace bee with him. The cham-
ber is not riddell of the ſmell of his feet, but the greaſie ſhoomaker
with his ſquirrels ſkin, and a whole ſtall of ware vpon his arme
enters, and wrencheth his legges for an houre together, and after
ſhewes his tally. By S. Loy that drawes deepe, and by that time
his Tobacco merchant is made euēn with, and hee hath dind at
a tauerne, and ſlept his under-meals at a bawdy houſe, his purſe
is on the heild, and only fortie ſhillings hee hath behinde, to trie
his fertme with at the cardes in the preſence, which if it proſper,

the

Dedicatore.

the court cannot containe him, but to London againe he will, to remell it, and haue two playes in one night, innite all the Poets and Musitions to his chamber the next morning, where against theyr comming, a whole heape of money shall bee bespread vpon the boord, and all his trunkes opened to shewe his rich futes, but the devill a whit bee bestowes on them, save bottle ale and Tobacco: and desires a generall meeting.

The particular of it is that bountie is bankrupt, and Lady sensualitie licks all the fat frō the seuen Liberal Sciences, that Poetry, if it were not a trick to please, my Lady would bee excluded out of Christian buriall, and in steade of wreathes of lawrell to crowne it with haue a bell with a cocks combe clapt on the crowne of it by olde Iohannes de Indagini, and his quire of dorbellists. Wherefore the premisses considered (I pray you consider of that woord Premisses, for somewhere I haue borrowed it) neither to rich, noble, right worshipfull, or worshipfull, of spirituall or temporall, will I consecrate this woorke, but to thee and thy capering humour alone, that if thy starres had doone thee right, they should haue made thee one of the mightiest princes of Germany, not for thou canst drīue a coach, or kill an oxe so wel as they, but that thou art never wel, but when thou art amongst the retinue of the Muses, and there spendest more in the twinkling of an eye, then in a whole yeare thou gettest by some grasieritie gentilitie thou followest. A King thou art by name, and a King of good fellowshippe by nature, whereby I nominate this Encomion of the king of fisshes was predestinare to thee from thy swadling clothes. Hugge it, smole it, kisse it, and call it now thou hast it. & renounce eating of greene beefe and garlike, till Martlemas, if it be not the next stile to The stile of Loue in a Dreame, or, the Lamentable burning of Teuerton. Give mee good words I beseech thee, though thou giuest me nothing else, and thy words shal stand for thy deeds, which I will take as well in woorth as if they were the deedes and evidences of all the lande thou hast. Heere I bring you a redde berring, if you will finde drinke to it, there an ende, no other detrimentes will I putte yon to. Let the Kanne of strong ale your

The Epistle Dedicatore.

constable, with the toaste his browne bill, and sugar and nutmegs
his watchmen stande in a readinesse, to entertaine mee euerie
time I come by your lodging. In Ruscia there are no presents but
of meate or drinke; I present you with meate, and you in honou-
rable courtesie to requite mee, can do no lesse then present mee
with the best mornings draught of merry-go-downe in your quar-
ters, and so I kisse the shadow of your feetes shadow, amiable
Donsell, expecting your sacred Poeme of the Hermites

Tale, that will restore the golden age amongst
us, and so uppon my soules knees,
I take my leave.

Yours for a whole last of redde
Herrings.

Th. Nashe.

To his Readers, hee cares not

what they be.



Ashes Lentenstiffe : and why *Nashes Lentenstiffe*? some scabbed scald squire replies, because I had money lent me at *Yarmouth*, and I pay them againe in prayse of their towne and the redde herring, and if it were so goodman Pig-wiggen, were not that honest dealing, pay thou al thy debtes so if thou canst for thy lise, but thou art a *Ninnihammer*: that is not it, therefore *Nickneacane* I cal it *Nashes Lenten-stiffe*, as well for it was most of my study the last Lent, as that we vs: so to term any fish that takes salt, of which the *Red. Herring* is one the aptest. O but sayth another *John Dringle*, there is a booke of the *Red. Herring's taile* printed fourte Termes since, that made this stale. Let it be a taile of habberding if it will, I am nothing entaile thereunto, I scorne it, I scorne it, that my woorkes should turne taile to any man. Head, body, taile and all of a redde Herring you shall haue of mee, if that will please you, or if that will not please you, stay till Ester Termes, and then with the answere to the *Trim Tram*, I will make you laugh your hearts out. Take me at my woord, for I am the man that will doo it. This is a light friskin of my witte, like the prayse of iniustice, the feuer quartaine, *Busiris* or *Phalaris*, wherin I follow the trace of the famoufest schollers of all ages,

whom

To the Reader.

whom a wantonizing humour once in their life
time hath possesst to play with strawes, and turne
mole-hils into mountaines.

Every man can say Bee to a Battledore, and write
in prayse of Vertue, and the seuen Liberall Sciences,
thresh corne out of the full sheaves, and fetch water
out of the Thames; but out of drie stubble to make
an after haruest, and a plentifull croppe without
sowing, and wring iuice out of a flint, that's *Pierce a
Gods name*, and the right tricke of a workman.
Let me speake to you about my hugewoords which
I vse in this booke, and then you are your own men
to do what you list. Know it is my true vaine to be
tragicus Orator, and of all stiles I most affect & striue
to imitate *Aretines*, not caring for this demure soft
mediocre genus, that is, like water and wine mixt to-
gether, but giue me pure wine of it self, & that begets
good bloud, and heates the brain thorowly: I had as
lieue haue no sunne, as haue it shinc faintly, no fire,
as a smothering fire of small coales, no cloathes, ra-
ther then weare linscy wolley. Apply it for me,
for I am cald away to correct the faults

of the presse, that escaped in my

absence from the Prin-

ting-house.

you take the place of the promotional collectors often less
money



THE PRAISE OF the red herring.



He raunge turning of the Ile of Dog, frō a comedie to a tragedie
two fummers past, with the trou-
bles me stir which hapned aboue
it, is a generall rumour that hath fil-
led all England, and such a heauie
croſſe laide vpon me, as had well
neere confounded mee: I meane,
not so much in that it fearestred
me from the woonted meanes of my maintenance, which is
as great a maine to any mans happiness, as can bee feared
frō the hands of miserie, or the deepe pit of dispaire wher-
into I was falne, beyond my greatest friendes reach to recouer
mee: but that in my exile and irkesome discontented a-
bandonment, the silliest millers thombe, or contemptible
ſtickle-banck of my enemies, is as busie nibbling about my
fame, as if I were a deade man throwne amouest them to
feede vpon. So I am I confesse in the worldes outward
appearance, though perhaſſes I may prooue a cunnering
diuer then they are aware, which if it ſo happen as I am
partely assured, and that I plunge aboue water once a-
gaine, let them looke to it, for I will put them in bryne,
or a piteous pickle euery one. But let that paſſe, though
they ſhal find I wil not let it paſſe when time ſerues, I ha-
ving a pamphlet hot a brooding that ſhall be called the *rutuauis*.
Quaſſa tamen
noſtra eſt, non
mersa nec ob-

The prayse of

Barbers warming panne, and to the occasion, a fresh of my falling in alliance with this lenten argument. That infortunate imperfit Embriō of my idle houres the Ile of Dogs before mentioned, breeding vnto me such bitter throwes in the teaming as it did, and the tempestes that arose at his birth, so astonishing outragious and violent as if my braine had bene conciued of another Hercules, I was so terrifyed with my owne encrease (like a woman long trauailing to bee deliuered of a monster) that it was no sooner borne but I was glad to run from it. Too inconsiderate headlong rashnesse this may be censured in me, in beeing thus prodigall in aduanta-
ging my aduersaries, but my case is no smoothred secret, and with light cost of rough cast rethorieke it may be tollerable-
ly playstered ouer, if vnder the pardon and priuiledge of incensed higher powers it were lawfully indulgent me freely to aduocate my owne astrology. Sufficeth what they in their graue wisedoomes shall prescribe, I in no sorte will seeke to acquite, nor presumptuously attempte to dispute against the equity of their iudgementes, but humble and prostrate ap-
peale to their mercies.

* An imperfit Embriō I ma-
well call it, for I
hauing begun
but the induc-
tion and first
act of it, the o-
ther foure acts
without my
consent, or the
leauis guesse of
my drift or
scope, by the
players were
iupplied, which
bred both their
trouble and
mine to.
* Medicus.

Auode or giue grounde I did, *scriptum est* I will not goe from it, and *post variis casis*, variable Knight arrant aduentures, and outroades, and inroades, at greate Yarmouth in Norfolke, I arrived in the latter ende of Autumne. Where hauing scarce lookt about me, my presa-
ging minde saide to it selfe, *Hic fanonius serenus est, hic an-
ter imbricus*, this is a predestinate fit place for *Pierse Penni-
lesse* to set vp his staffe in. Therein not much diameter to my
deuining hopes did the euent sort it selfe, for sixe weekes first
and last vnder that predodumant conitellation of *Aquarii* or *Iones Nectar* fillier, tooke I vp my repose, and there mette
with such kind entertainment and benigne hospitality when
I was *Una litera plusquam medicus* as Plautus saith, and not
able to line to my selfe with my owne iuice, as some of the
cruimmes of it like the crums in a bushy beard afrer a greate
banquet, will remaine in my papers to bee seene when I am
dead

deade and vnder ground ; from the bare perusing of which infinite posterities of hungry Poets shall receiue good refre-
shing, euen as *Homer* by *Galateon* was pictured vomiting in
a basō (in the temple that *Ptolemy Philopater* erected to him) and the rest of the succeeding Poets after him, greedily lap-
ping vp what he disgorged . That good old blind bibber of
Helicon I wot well, caine a begging to one of the chiefe cit-
ties of Greece, & promised them vast corpulent volumes of
immortallity, if they would bestowe vpon him but a slender
outbrothers annuity of muttō & broth, and a pallet to sleep
on, and with derision they reiected him, wherupon he went
to their enemies with the like proffer, who vfed him honou-
rably, and whome hee vfed so honourably, that to this daye
though it be three thousand yeare since, their name and glo-
rie florish greene in mens memory through his industry . I
truste you make no question but those dull pated pennifa-
thers, that in such dudgen scorne reiected him, drunck deep
of the soure cup of repentance for it, when the high flight of
his lines in common brute was ooyessed. Yea in the worde
of one no more wealthy then hee was, wealthy saide I, nay
Ile besworne hee was a grande iurie man in respect of me,
thosc graybeard Huddle-duddles and crusty cuin-twangs,
were strooke with such stinging remorse of their miserable
Euclionisme and sundgery, that hee was not yet cold in his
graue but they challenged him to be borne amongst them,
and they and sixe citties more, entred a sharpe warre aboue
it, euery one of them laying claime to him as their owne,
and to this effect hath *Bucchanan* an Epigrain.

Urbes certarunt septem de patria Homeri;

Nulla domus vino patria nulla fuit.

Seauen citties stroaue whence *Homer* first shoulde come
When liuing, he no country had nor hoime.

I alleadge this tale to shewe howe much better my lacke

then *Homers* (though all the King of Spaines Indies will not create me such a nigling Hexameter-founder as he was) in the first proclayming of my banke-rout indigence and beggery, to bende my course to such a curteous compassionate clime as Yarmouth, and to warne others that aduaunce their heades aboue all others, and haue not respected, but rather flatly opposed themselues against the Frier mendicants of our profession, what their amercements and vnrepriueable penance will be, excepte they teare ope their oystermouthd pouches quickly, and make double amendes for their parsimony. I am no *Tiresias* or *Calchas* to prophecie, but yet I cannot tell, there may bee more resounding bel-mettall in my pen then I am aware, and if there bee, the first peale of it is Yarmouthes. For a patterne or tiny-sample what my elaborate performance would bee in this case, had I a ful-sayld gale of prosperity to encourage mee, whereas at the dishumored composing hereof may iustly complaine with *Ouid*,

Anchora iam nostram non tenet illa ratem.

My state is so tost and weather-beaten that it hath nowe no anchor-holde left to cleave vnto. I care not, if in a dimme farre of launce-skippe, I take the paines to describe this superlmente principall Metropolis of the redde Fish. A towne it is that in rich situation exceedeth many citties, and without the which, *Caput gentis*, the swelling Battlementes of Gurguntus, a head city of Norffolke, and Suffolke, would scarce retaine the name of a Citty, but become as ruinous and desolate as Thetforde or Ely: out of an hill or heape of sande, reared and enforced from the sea most miraculously, and by the singular pollicy and vncessant inestimable expence of the Inhabitantes, so firmly piled and rampierd against the furnish waues battry, or suyng the leaste action of recouerie, that it is more conjecturall of the twaine, the land with a writ of a *Eiectione firma* wil get the vpperhande of the Ocean, then the Ocean one crowes skip preuaile against the Continent. Forth of the sands thus struglingly as it exalteth

and

the red Herring.

and liftes vp his glittering head. So of the neyborong sands no lesse semblably (whether in recordation of their worn out affinitie or no, I know not) it is so inamorately protected and patronized, that they stand as a trench or garde about it in the night, to keep off their enemies. Now in that drowsie empire of the pale-fac't *Queene of shades*, malgre letting driue vpon their Barricadoes, or impetuosity contending to breake through their chaine or barre, but they entombe and balist with sodaine destruction. In this transcursiue reportory without some obseruant glaunce, I may not dully ouer passe the gallant beauty of their hauen, which hauing but as it were a welte of land, or as M. Camden cals it, *lingulam terrae*, a little tong of the earth betwixte it and the wide Maine, sticks not to mannage armes, and hold his owne vndefeasably against that yniuersall vnbounded empery of surges, and so hath done for this hundredth yere. Two mile in length it stretched his winding current, and then meetes with a spacious riuer or backwater that feedes it. A narrow channell or *Isthmus* in rash view you woulde opinionate it: when this I can deuoutly auerre, I beholding it with both my eies this last fishing, sixe hundredth reasonable barkes and vessilles of good burden (with a vantage) it hath giuen shelter to at once in her harbour, and most of them riding abreast before the Key berwixt the Bridge and the Southgate. Many bows length beyond the marke, my penne roues not I am certain, if I doe, they stand at my elbow that can correct mee. The delectablest lustie sight and mouingest obiect, me thought it was that our Ile sets forth, and nothing behinde in number with the inuincible *Spanish Armada*, though they were not such Gargantuan boisterous gulliguts as they, though ships and galeasies they would haue beene reckoned in the nauy of K. *Edgar*, who is chronicled & registered with three thousand ships of warre to haue scoured the narrow seas, and sailed round about England euery Summer. That which espe- ciallest nourisht the most prime pleasure in me, was after a

storme when they were driuen in swarmes, and lay close
pestered together as thicke as they could packe ; the next
day following, if it were faire, they would cloud the whole
skie with canuas, by spreading their drabled sailes in the full
clue abroad a drying, and make a brauer shew with them,
then so many banners and streamers displayed against the
Sunne on a mountaine top. But how Yarmouth of it selfe so
innumerable populous and replenished, and in so barraine a
plot seated, should not onely supply her inhabitants with
plentifull purveyance of sustenance, but prouant and victu-
all moreouer this monstrous army of strangers, was a matter
that egregiously bepuzled and entranced my apprehension.
Hollanders, Zelanders, Scots, French, Westerne men, Nor-
thren men, besides all the hundreds and wapentakes nine
miles compasse, fetch the best of their viands and mangery
from her market. For ten weeks together this rabble rout
of outlandishers are billeted with her, yet in all that while
the rate of no kinde of food is raised, nor the plenty of their
markets one pinte of butter rebated, and at the ten weekes
end, when the campe is broken vp, no impression of any
dearth left, but rather more store then before. Some of the
towne dwellers haue so large an opinion of their settled pro-
vision, that if all her Maiesties fleet at once should put into
their bay, within twelue dayes warning with so much dou-
ble beere, beefe, fish and basket they would bulke them as
they could wallow away with.

Here I could breake out into a boundlesse race of orato-
ry, in shrill trumpeting and concelebrating the royall mag-
nificence of her gouernement, that for state and strict ciuill
ordering, scant admitteth any riuals ; but I feare it would be
a theame displeasant to the graue modesty of the discreet
present magistrates ; and therefore consultiuely I ouerslip it,
howsoeuer I purpose not in the like nice respect to leape o-
uer the laudable petigree of Yarmouth, but will fetch her
from her swadling clouts of infancy, & reueale to you when
and

the red Herring

7

and by whom she was first raught out of the oceans arines, and start vp and aspired to such starry sublimitie, as also acquaint you with the notable immunitiess, franchises, priuileges she is endowed with beyond all het confiners, by the di-
scentine line of kings from the conquest.

There be of you it may be, that will account me a paltrer, for hanging out the signe of the redde Herring in my title page, and no such feaſt towards for ought you can ſee. Soft and faire my maifters, you muſt walke and talkc before dinner an houre or two, the better to whet your appetites to taste of ſuſh a dainty diſh as the redde Herring, and that you may not thinke the time tedious, I care not if I beare you company, and leade you a ſound walke round about Yarmouth, and ſhew you the length and breadth of it.

The masters and batchellours commenſement dinners at Cambridge and Oxford, are betwixt three and foure in the afternoone, & the rest of the antecedence of the day worne out in diſputations: imagine this the aet or commenſement of the red Herring, that proceedeth batcheler, master & doctor all at once, & therefore his diſputations muſt be longer. But to the point, may it please the whole generation of my auditours to be aduertised, how that noble earth where the town of great Yarmouth is now mounted, & where ſo much fish is ſold, in the dayes of yore, hath bin the place where you might haue catch fish, & as plaine a ſea within this 600. yere as any bote could tumble in, & ſo was the whole leuill of the Marshes betwixt it and Norwich. *An. Do. 1000.* or thereabouts (as I haue ſcrapt out of worneaten Parchment) and in the Raigne of *Canntus*, hee that dyed drunke at Lambeth or Lome-hith, ſomewhat before, or ſomewhat after, not a prenticeship of yeaſes varying: *Caput extulit undis*, the ſands ſet vp ſhop for themſelues, and from that moment to this ſextine centurie (or let me not be taken with a lye, ſiue hundred nintie eight, that wants but a paire of yeaſes to make me a true man) they would no more liue vnder the

B 4

yoke

yoke of the Sea , or haue their heads washt with his bubbly
spume or Barbers balderdash, but clearely quitted, dis-
minated and relegated them selues from his inflated Capri-
ciousnesse of playing the Dictator ouer them.

The Northerne winde was the clanging trumper,
who with the terrible blast of his throate , in one yeallow
heape or plumpe clustred or congested them together, euen
as the Westerne gales in Holland right ouer against them,
haue wrought vnruly hauocke, and thresht and swept the
sandes so before them, that they haue choakt or claid vp
the middle walke or dore of the *Rhene* , and made it as sta-
ble a clod-mould, or turffe ground, as any hedger can driue
stake in. Caster two mile distant from this new Yarmouth
we intreate of, is inscribed to be that olde Yarmouth, wher-
of there are specialties to be seene in the oldeſt writers , and
yet some visible apparant tokens remaine of a hauen that ran
vp to it, and there had his entrance into the sea, by aged Fi-
shermen commonly tearmed *Grubs Hauen*) though now it
be graueld vp, and the streame or tyde-gate turned another
way. But this is most warrantable, the *Alpha* of all the Yar-
mouths it was, & not the *Omega* correspondently, & frō her
withered roote they branch the high ascent of their genea-
logie. *Omnium rerum vicissitudo est*, ones falling, is anotherſ
rising, and ſo fell it out with that ruind Dorpe or hamlet,
which after it had relapſt into the Lordes handes for want of
reparations, and there were not men enough in it to defend
the ſhore from inuafion, one *Cerdicuſ* a Plaſhing Saxon ,
that had reueld here and there with his battleaxe , on the
bordring bankes of the decrepitate ouerworne village now
furnamed *Gorlſtone* threw forth his anchor , and with the af-
fiance of his ſpeare, in ſtead of a pikeſtaſſe, leapt aground like
a ſurdie bruite, and his yeomen bolde caſt their heeles in
their necke, and friskt it after him, and thence ſprouteth that
obſcene appellation of *Sarding ſandes*, with the draffe of
the

the carterly Hoblobs thereabouts, concoct or disgeast for a scripture, verity, when the right christendome of it, is Cerdicke sands, or Cerdick shore, of Cerdicus so denominated, who was the first maylord or captaine of the morris daunce that on those embenched shelues stampft his footing, where cods & dogfish swomme not a warp of weeks forerunning) & til he had giuen the onser, they balkt the as quicksands. By and by after his iumping vpon them, the Saxons for that *Garianonum*, or Yarmoth that had giuen vp the ghost, in those flymie plashie fieldes of Gorlifone trowled vp a second Yarmouth, abutting on the West side of the shore of this great Yarmouth, that is, but feeling the ayre to be vnholsoine and disagreeing with them, to the ouerwhart brink or verge of the flud, that wrt all one stile of Cerdicke sands, they dislodged with bagge and baggage, and there layde the foundatiō of a third Yarmouth *Quam nulla potest abolere vetustas*, that I hope will holde vp her head till Doomesday. In this Yarmouth as Master *Camden* saith, there were seuentie inhabitants, or housholders, that payed scot and lot in the time of *Edward the Confessor*, but a Chronographical Latine table, which they haue hanging vp in their Guild hall, of all their transmutations from their Cradlehoode, infringeth this a little, and flatters her, shee is a great deale yonger, in a faire text hand texting vnto vs, how in the Scepterdom of *Edward the Confessor*, the sands first began to growe into sight at a low water, and more sholder at the mouth of the ryuer *Hirus* or *Ierius*, whereupon it was dubbed Ierninouth or Yarmouth, and then there were two Channels, one on the North, another on the South, where through the fisher-men did wander and wauer vp to Norwich, and diuers parts of Suffolke and Norfolke, all the fenne *Lerna* betwixt, that with Reede is so imbristled, being (as I haue forespoken or spoken to fore) *Madona, Amphi- tritic*, fluctuouis demeans or fee simple.

From the Citie of Norwich on the East part, it is sixteene

mile disiunct, and dislorated, and though betwixt the Sea and the salt flud it be interposed, yet in no place about it can you digge sixe foote deepe, but you shall haue a gushing spring offresh or sweete water for all yses, as apt and accommodate, as Saint Winifrides Well, or Towre-hill water at London, so much praised and sought after. My Tables are not yet one quarter emptied of my notes out of their Table, which because it is, as it were a Sea Rutter diligently kept amongst them from age to age, of all their ebbs and flowes, and winds that blew with or against them, I tie my selfe to more precisely, and thus it leadeth on.

In the time of King *Herrolde* and *William* the Conquerour, this sand of Yarmouth grew to a settled lumpe, and was as drie as the sands of Arabia, so that thronging theaters of people (as well Aliens as Englishmen) hied thither about the selling offish and Herring, from Saint Michael to Saint Martin, and there built sutlers booths and tabernacles, to canopie their heads in from the rheyne of the heauens, or the clouds dissoluing Cataracts. King *William Rufus* hauing got the Golden wreath about his head, one *Herbertus* Bishop of the sea of Norwich, hearing of the gangs of good fellowes, that hurtled and bustled thither, as thicke as it had beene to the shrine of Saint *Thomas a Becket*, or our Ladie of Walsingham, builded a certaine Chappell there for the seruice of God, and saluation of soules.

In the raigne of King *Henrie* the first, King *Steuen*, King *Henrie* the second, and *Richard de corde Lyon*, the apostacie of the sands from the yalping world was so great, that they ioynd themselues to the maine land of Eastflege, and whole tribes of males and females, trotted bargd it thither to build and inhabite, which the saide Kinges whiles they weilded their swords temporall animaduertised of, assigned a ruler or gouernour ouer them, that was called the Kings prouost, and that manner of prouostship or gouernment remained in full force and vertue all their fowre Throne shipps,

Alias

Aliis a hundred ycare, euен till the inanguration of King *John*, in whose dayes the forewritten of Bishop of Norwich, seeing the numbrous increase of soules of both kindesthat there had framd their nells, and meant not to forsake them till the soule Bell towld them thence, puld downe his Chap-pell, and what by himse. fe and the deuout oblations and do-uatines of the fishermen vpon euery returne with their nets full, reedifide and raysed it to a Church of that magnitude, as vnder ministers and Cathedrals verie queasie it adimits a ny haylefellow well met, and the Church of Saint Nicholas he hallowed it, whence Yarmouth roade is nicknamed the Roade of Saint Nicholas. King *John* to comply and keep confort with his auncestors in furthring of this new waterworke, in the ninth ycare of the engirting his annoyned browes with the resfulgent Ophir circle, and Anno 1209. set a fresh glasse vpon it, of the towne or free burrough of Yarmouth, and furnisht it with many substantial priuiledges and liberties, to haue and to holde the same of him, and his race, for fifty ffe pound yearly. In *Anno 1240.* it percht vpto be gouernd by bales, and in a narrower limmitte then the forty yeares vndermeale of the seauen sleepers, it had so much towe to her distaffe and was so well lined and bumiba-sted, that in a sea battell her shippes and men conflictd the cinque ports, and therein so laid about them, that they burnt, tooke, and spoyled the most of them, whereof such of them as were sure flights, (sauing a reuerence of their manhoods) ranne crying and complayning to King *Henry* the second, who with the aduice of his counsaile, set a fine of a thouland pound on the Yarmouth mens heads for that offence, which fine in the tenth of his reigne hee dispenc't with and pardoned.

Edward the first, and Edward the second likewise, let them lacke for no priuiledges, changing it from a burrough to a porte towne, and there setting vp a custome house with the appurtenances for the loading and vnloading of ships.

Henry the third in the fortieth of his c̄mpery cheard vp their blouds with two charters more, and in *Anno 1262.* and for-ty fīue of his courte keeping, hee permitted them to wall in their towne, and moate it about with a broade ditch, and to haue a prison or iaile in it. In the swindge of his trident, he constituted two Lord admirals ouer the whole nauy of Eng-land, which he disposed in two partes, the one to beare f̄way from the thaines mouth Northwarde, called the Northren nauy, the other to shape his course from the thaines mouth to the westwarde termed the westerne nauy, and ouer this northren nauy, for admirall commissionated one John Peerbrowne burgesse of the towne of Yarmouth, and ouer the westerne nauy one Sir Robert Laburnus knight.

But Peerebrowne did not only hold his office all the time of that king doeing plausible seruice, but was againe Readmirald by Edward the third and so died; in the fourteenth of whose raigne, he met with the french Kinges nauy, beeing foure-hundred saile, neere to the hauen of *Sluse*, and there so slikt and slasht them & tore their plancks to manmocks, and their leane guttes to kites meate, that their best mercy was fire & water which hath no mercie, and not a victuelar or a drumbler of them hanging in the winde aloofe, but was rib-roasted or had some of his ribbes crusht with their stondarting engines, no ordinance then beeing inuented. This Edward the thirde of his propensiue minde towardses them, vnted to Yarmouth Kirtley roade, from it seauen mile va-cant, and sowing in the furrowes that his predecessours had entred, hayned the price of their priuiledges & not brought them downe one barley kirell.

Richard the second, vpon a discord twixt Leystofe and Yarmouth, after diuers law-dayes and arbitrarie mandates to the counties of Suffolke and Norfolke directed about it, in proper person 1385. came to Yarmouth, and in his parlia-mente the yeare ensuing, confirmed vnto it the liberties of Kirtley roade, (the onely motiue of all their contention).

Henrie

Henrie the fifth or the fifth of the Henries that ruled ouer vs, abridged them not a mite of their purchaſt prerogatiues, but permitted them to builde a bridge ouer their hauen and ayded and furthered them in it. Henry the sixth, Edward the fourth, Henry the ſeauenth and King Henry the eight, with his daughters Queene Mary and our *Chara deum ſoboles* Queene Elizabeth, haue not withred vp their handes in ſigning and ſubſcribing to their requests, but our virgin rectoresse moſt of al, hath ſhoured downe her bounty vpon them, graunting them greater graunts then cuer they had, beſides by-matters of the clarke of the marketſhippe, and many other beneuolences towardes the reparation of their porte. This and euery towne hath his backewinters or froſtes that riſſe it in the blade (as not the cleareſt ſunne-ſhine but hath his ſhade, and there is a time of ſicknes as well as of health) The backewinter, the froſte biting, the eclipse, or ſhade, and ſickneſſe of Yarmouth was, a greate ſickneſſe or plague in it 1348, of which in one yeaſe ſeauen thouſand and fifty peopple toppled vp their heeles there. The newe building at the west ende of the Church was begunne there 1330, which like the imperfit workes of kinges colledge in Cambridge, or Christ-church in Oxford, haue too costly large foundations to be euer finished,

It is thought if the towne had not beene ſo ſcoured and eaten vp by that mortality, out of their owne purſeſ they woulde haue proceeded with it, but nowe they haue gone a neerer way to the wood, for with wooden galleries in the Church that they haue, and ſtayry degrees of ſeates in them, they make as much roome to ſitte and heare, as a newe west end would haue done.

The length and breadth of Yarmouth I promised to ſhew you; haue with you, haue with you: but firſt looke wifly vpon the walles, which if you marke, make a ſtretcht out quadrangle with the hauen. They are in compaſſe from the

The prayse of

South cheanes to the North cheanes, two thousand one hundredth and fourescore yardes. They haue towres vpon them sixteene : mounts vndersonging & enflancking them two of olde, now three, which haue their thundring tooles to compell *Deigo Spanyard* to ducke, and strike the winde collicke in his paunch, if he praunce to neare them, and will not vaile to the *Queene of England*. The compasse about the wall of this new mount is ffeue hundred foot, and in the mea- sure of yards eight score and seuen. The breadth of the foun- dation nine foot : the depth within ground eleuen. The heighth to the setting there offifteene foot, and in breadth at the setting of it, ffeue foot three inches, and the procerous sta- ture of it (so embailing and girdling in this mount) twentie foot and sixe inches. Gates to let in her friends, and shut out her enemies, Yarmouth hath ten lans, seuen score: as for her streets, they are as long as threescore streets in London, and yet they diuide them but into three. Voide ground in the towne from the walles to the houses, and from the houses to the hauen, is not within the verge of my Geometry. The li- berties of it on the fresh water one way, as namely from Yarmouth to *S. Toolies* in Beckles water, are ten mile, and from Yarmouth to Hardlie crosse another way, ten mile, and conclusiuely, from Yarmouth to Waybridge in the narrow North water tenne mile; in all which foords or *Meandors*: none can attache, arrest, distresse, but their officers; and if any drowne theiuelues in them, their Crowners sit vpon them.

I had a crotchet in my head, here to haue giuen the raines to my pen, and run astray thorowout all the coast townes of England, digging vp their dilapidations, and raking out of the dust-heape or charnell house of tenebrous eld, the rot- tenest relique of their monuments, and bright scoured the canker eaten brasie of their first bricklayers and founders, & commented and paralogized on their condition in the pre- sent, & in the pretertense, not for any loue or hatred I beare them,

them, but that I would not be snibd, or haue it cast in my dishe, that therefore I prayse Yarmouth so rantantingly, because I neuer elsewhere bayted my horse, or tooke my bowe and arrowes and went to bed. Which leesing (had I bene let alone) I would haue put to bed with a recumbentibus, by vttering the best, that with a safe conscience mought be vitred of the best, or worst of them all, and notwithstanding all at best, that tongue could speake, or hart could thinke of them, they should bate me an ace of Yarmouth. Mutch brainetossing and breaking of my scull it cost me, but farewell it, and farewell the Baylies of the Cynqueports, whose primordiat *Gethneliaca*, was also dropping out of my inckhorse, with the syluer oare of their barrony by *William* the Conquerour conueyed ouer them at that nicke when hee firmed and rubrickt the Kentishmens gauill kinde of the sonne to inherite at fifteene, and the felony of the father not to draw a foot of land from the sonne, & amongst the sonnes the portion to be equally distributed; and if there were no sonnes, much good doe it the daughters, for they were to share it after the same tenure, and might alienate it how they would, either by legacy or bargaine without the consent of the lord.

To shun spight, I smothered these dribblements, & refrained to descant how *William* the Conquerour hauing heard the prouerbe of Kent and Christendome, thought he had woonne a countrey as good as all Christendome, when he was enfeofed of Kent, for which, to make it sure vnto him after he was entailed thereunto, nought they askt they needed to aske twise, it being enacted ere the words came out of their mouth. Of that profligated labour, yet my breast pants and labours: a whole moneths minde of revoluing meditation, I raueling out therein (as raueling out signifies *Penelopestelam retexere*, the vnweauing of a webbe before wouen and contected:) It pities me, it pities me, that in cutting off so faire a diamond as Yarmouth, I haue not a casket

dusky

dusky Coruish diamonds by me, and a boxe of i muddy foiles
the better to set it forth. *Ut nemo miser nisi comparatus, sic nihil
pro mirifico nisi cum alijs conferatur. Cedite soli stellæ scintillan-
tes, soli Garrianano cedite reliqua oppida veliger a sedium naua-
tum speciocissimo sed redeo ad vernaculum.*

All Common wealths assume their prenominations of
their common diuided weale, as where one man hath not
too much riches, and another man too much pouertie:
Such was *Platos* communitie and *Licurgus*, and the olde Ro-
mans lawes, of measuring out their fields, their meads, their
pastures & houses, and meating out to euery one his childeſ
portion. To this *Commune bonum* (or euery horse his loafe)
Yarmouth in propinquity is as the buckle to the thong, and
the next finger to the thumbe; not that it is fibbe or cater-
cousins to any mūgrel *Democratia*, in which one is all, & all is
one, but that in her as they are not al one so one ortwo there
pockets not vp all the peeces, there beeing two hundred
in it worth three hundred pounde a peece, with poundage
and shillings to the lartched, set aside the Bailifes fowre and
twentie, and eight and fourtie. Put out mine eye, who can
with such another bragge of my Sea towne within two
hundred myle of it. But this common good within it ſelfe, is
nothing to the common good it communicatſ to the whole
ſtate. Shall I particularize vnto you, *quibus vijs & modis*, how
and wherein. There is my hand to, I will doe it, and this is
my *Exordium*. A towne of defence it is to the Counties of
Suffolke and Norfolke againſt the enemies, (ſo acounted
at the firſt graunting of their liberties) and by the naturall
iſtrength of the ſituation ſo apparant, being both inuironed
with many ſands, and now of late by great charge, much
more fortified then in auncient times. All the Realme it
profiteth many waies, as by the free Faire of herring chiefly,
maintained by the fisher-inen of Yarmouth themſelues, by
the great plentie of ſalted fish there, not ſo little two yeaſes
paſt as four hundred thouſand, wherein were employed
about

about fourescore saile of barkes of their owne.

By the furnishing forth of forty boates for mackerell at the spring of the yeare when all thinges are dearest, which is a great relief to all the country thereaboutes, and soone after Bartlemewe-tyde, a hundred and twenty sayle of their owne for herrings, and forty sayle of other ships and barkes trading Newe castle, the lowe countries and other voyages. Norwitch at her Maiesies comming in progresse thither, presented her with a shew of knitters on a high stage placed for the nonce, Yarmouth if the like occasiō were, could clap vp as good a shewe of netbrayders, or those that haue no cloathes to wrappe their hides in or breade to put in their mouthes, but what they earne and get by brayding of nets, (not so little as two thousand pound they yearly dispersing amongst the poore women and children of the country, for the spinning of twine to make them with, besides the labour of the enhabitautes in working them) and for a cōmodious greene place neare the seashoare to mende and drie them, not Salsbury plaine or Newmarket heath (though they haue no vicinity or neighbourhoode with the sea, or scarce with any ditch or pond of freshwater) may ouerpeere or out crow her, there being aboue fiue thousand pounds worth of them at a time vpon her dennes a sunning. A conuenient key within her hauen shē hath, for the deliuery of nets and herrings, where you may lie a floate at a lowe water; (I beseech you doe not so in the thames), many seruiceable marriners and seafaring-men shē trayneth vp (but of that in the herring.)

The marshes and lower grounds lying vpon the three riuers that vagary vp to her, (comprehending many thousand acres) by the vigilant preseruation of their hauen are encreased in value more then halfe, which else would be a *Mæotis palus*, a meare or lake of Eeles Frogges, and wilde-duckes. The city of Norwitch (as in the *Preludium* heereof I had a twitch at) fares were the worse for her, nor would fare so wel

if it were not for the fishe of all sortes that shee cloyeth her with, and the fellowship of their hauen into which their three riuers infuse themselues, and through which their goods and merchandise from beyonde seas are keeled vp with small cost to their very thresholds, and to many good townes on this side, and beyond. I woulde be loth to builde a labyrinth in the gatehouse of my booke, for you to loose your selues in, and therefore I shred of many thinges, we will but cast ouer the bill of her charge, and talke a worde or two of her buildings, and breake vp and go to breakefast with the red herring. The hauen hath cost in these last 28. yeares, sixe and twenty thousand two hundred and sixe and fifty pounde foure shillinges and ffeue pence. Fortification and poulder since *Anno 1587.* two thousand markes, the sea-seruice in *Anno 1588.* eight hundredth poundes, the Portingale voy- age a thousand pound, the voyage to Cales as much.

It hath lost by the Dunkerkers a thousand pound, by the Frenchinen thrice thousand, by Wafting eight hundred, by the Spaniardes and other losses not rated, at the least three thousand more. The continuall charge of the Towne in maintenance of their Hauen, ffeue hundred pounds a yeaire, *Omnibus annis* for euer, the feefarme of the Towne fiftie ffeue pound, and ffeue pound a yeaire aboue for Kirtley Roade. The continuall charge of the bridge ouer the hauen, their walls, and a number of other odde reckonings we deale not with, towards all which they haue not in certaine reunewes aboue fiftie or three-score pounds a yeaire, and that is in houses. The yearlye charge towards the prouision of fishe for her Maiestie 1000. pounds, as for arable matters of tillage and husbandrie, and grasing of cattell, their barraine sands will not beare them, and they get not a beggers noble by one or other of them, but their whole haruest is by Sea.

It were to be wished that other coasters were so industrious as the Yarmouth, in winning the treasure of fish out of those profoundities, and then we should haue twentie egges a penny

a pennie: and it would be as plentifull a world as when Ab-
bies stode: and now if there be any plentifull world, it is in
Yarmouth. Her sumptuous porches and garnisht buildings
are such, as no port Towne in our Brittish circumference
(nay, take some porte Citties ouer-plus into the bargainer)
may suitably stake with, or adequate.

By the proportion of the East surprised Gades or Cales,
diuers haue tried their cunning, to configurate a twinlike
image of it, both in the correlative analogie of the spanbroad
rowse running betwixt, as also of the skirt or lappet of earth
whereon it stands, heerein onely liimitting the difference,
that the houses heere are not such flatte custard Crownes at
the top as they are. But I for my parte cast it aside as two
obscure a Canton, to demonstrate and take the altitude by
of so *Elizian* a habitation as Yarmouth. Of a bounzing side-
waisted parish in Lancashire, we haue a flying voyce disper-
sed, where they goe nine mile to Church euery Sunday, but
Parish for Parish throughout Lancashire, Cheshire, or Win-
gandecoy, both for numbers in grosse of honesthoushoul-
ders, youthfull couragious valiant spirates, and substantiall
graue Burgers, Yarmouth shall droppe vie with them to the
last *Edward* groate they are worth. I am postling to my pro-
posed scope, or else I could runne tenne quier of paper out
of breath, in further trauersing her rightes and dignities.

But of that fraught I must not take in two liberall, in case
I want towage for my red Herring, which I rely vpon as
my wealthieſt loading. Farewell flourishing Yarmouth, and
be euery day more flourishing then other vntill the latter
day, whiles I haue my fense or existence, I will persist in
louing theſe, and ſo with this abrupt *Post script* I leaue thee. I
haue not trauaileſt farre, though conſerued with fartheſt tra-
uailers, from our owne Realme, I haue turnd ouer venerable
Bede, and plenteous beadrowles offrierly annal's following
on the backe of him. *Polidore Virgill, Buchanan, Camdens*
Brittania and moſt recordes of friendes, or enemies I haue

searcht as concerning the later modell of it, none of the inland partes thereof but I haue traded them as frequently as the middle walke in Poules, or my way to bed euery night, yet for ought I haue read, heard, or seene, Yarmouth regall Yarmouth of all maritimall townes that are no more but fisher townes soyl raigneth sance peere.

Not any where is the word seuerer practised, the preacher reuerentlier obserued and honoured, iustice founder ministred, and a warlike people peaceablier demeanourd, betwixte this and the *Grand Cathay*, and the strand of *Prester John*.

Adew adue, tenne thousand folde delicate paramour of *Neptune*, the nexte yeare my standish may haps to addresse another voyage vnto thee, if this haue any acceptāce. Now it is high heaking time, and bee the windes neuer so easterly aduerse and the tyde fled from vs, wee must violently towe and hale in our redoubtable *Sophy* of the floating kingdom of *Pisces*, whomc so much as by name I shoulde not haue acknowledged, had it not beene that I mused how Yarmouth should be inuested in such plenty and opulence, considering that in M. *Hackluit*s English discoueries, I haue not come in ken of one mizzen mast of a man of warre bound for the Indies or mediterranean sternebearer sente from her *Zenith* or *Meridian*; Mercuriall brested M. *Harborne* alwaies accepted a rich sparke of eternity first lighted and enkindled at Yarmouth, or there first bred and brought forth to see the light, who since in the hottest degrees of *Leo*, hath echoing noysed the name of our Ilande and of Yarmouth so *Tritenly* that not an infant of the curtauld skinclipping pagans but talk of London as frequently as of their Prophets toimbe at *Mæcha*, & as much worships or maidenpeace as it were but one sun that shin'd ouer them all. Our first embassiadour was he to the *Behemoth* of *Constantinople*, and as *Moses* was sent from the omnipotent God of heauen to perswade with *Sultan Pharao* to let the children of Israell goe, so from the potent

potent goddesse of the earth *Eliza* was hee sent to set free the English captiues and cōpen vnto vs the passage into the redde sea and *Euphrates*. How impetrable hee was in mollifying the * adamantineſt tiranny of inankinde, and houre- * The adamāt
ly crucifier of *Iesus Christ* crucifyde & wrooter vp of *Palle-* mollifide with
ſtine those that beſcrutinus to pry into, let them reuolue the nothing but
blōud.

Digests of our English discouries cited vp in the prece-
dence, and be documentized most locupletaly. Of him and
none but him who in valuation is woorth 18. huge *Argoſees*
full of our present dated mishapen childiſh trauailers, haue I
took ſent or come in the wind of, that euer Yarmoth vnſhel-
led or ingendred to weather it on till they loſt the North-
ſtarre, or ſailed iuſt *Antipodes* againſt vs, nor walking in her
ſtrcetes ſo inany weekes togither could I meete with any of
theſe ſwaggeing captaines, (captaines that wore a whole
antient in a ſcarfe which made them goe heauē ſhouldred it
was ſo boysterous) or huſtituſtie youthfull ruffling com-
rades wearing euery one three yeardes of feather in his cap
for his miſtris fauour, ſuch as wee ſtumble on at each ſecond
ſtep at Plimmouth, Southampton, and Portſmouth, but an
eniuersal marchantly formallity, in habitte, ſpeach, gestures,
though little merchandife they beate their headeſ aboute,
Queene Norwitch for that goeing betweene them and
home, at length (ô that length of the full pointe ſpoiles me,
all gentle readers I beſeech you pardon mee) I ſell a com-
muning herupon with a gentleman a familiar of mine, & he
eftſoones defined vnto mee that the redde herring was this
old *Tickleſcob*, or *Magiſter fac totum*, that brought in the red
ruddocks and the grummell ſeed as thicke as oatmeale, and
made Yarmouth for argent to put dowue the city of *Ar-
gentine*. Doe but conuert ſaid hee the ſlenderelſt twinckling
reflexe of your eieſight to this flinty ringe that engirteth it,
theſe towred walles, port-cullizd-gates and gorgeous archi-
tectures that condecorate and adorne it, and then peron-
der of the red herringes priority and preualence, who is the

onely vnexhaustible mine that hath raisd and begot all this, and minutely to riper maturity fosters and cherishest it. The red herring alone it is that counteruailes the burdensome detrimentes of our hauen, which euery twelue-month deuoures a Iustice of peace liuing, in weares and banckes to beate off the sand and ouerthwart ledging and fencing it in; that defrayes all impositions and outwarde payments to her Maiestie (in which Yarmouth giues not the wall to sixe, though sixeteene moath-eaten burgesse townes that haue dawbers and thatchers to their Mayors, challenge in parliament the vpper hand of it) and for the vaward or subburbes of my narration, that empals our sage senatours or *Ephori*, in princely scarlet as pompous ostentyue as the *Vinti quater* or Lady *Troynonant*; wherefore quoth he if there be in thee any whit of that vnquēchable sacred fire of *Appollo* (as al men repute) and that *Minerua* amongest the number of her heires hath addopted thee, or thou wilt coimmend thy muse to sempiternity, and haue images and statutes erected to her after her vnstringed silent interment and obsequies, rouze thy spirates out of this drowsie lethargy of mellancholly they are drencht in, and wrest them vp to the most outstretched ayry straine of elocution to chaunt and carroll forth the *Alteza* an excelsitude of this monarchall fluddy *Induperator*.

Very tractable to this lure I was trained, and put him not to the full anniling of me with any found hammering persuasion, in that at the first sight of the top-gallant towers of Yarmouth, and a wecke before he had broken any of these words betwixt his teeth, my muse was ardently inflamed to do it some right, and how to bring it about fitter I knew not, then in the praise of the red herring, whose proper soile and nursery it is. But this I must giue you to wit, how euer I haue tooke it vpon me, that neuer since I spouted incke, was I of woorie aptitude to goe thorow with such a mighty March brewage as you exspect, or temper you one right cup of that ancient wine of *Falernum* which would last founty yeere; or
confe-

consecrate to your fame a perpetuall temple of the Pine-trees of *Ida* which neuer rot. For besides the loud bellowing prodigious flaw of indignation, stird vp against me in my absence and extermination from the vpper region of our celestiall regiment, which hath dung mee in a maner downe to the infernall bottome of desolation, and so troubledly bemuddled with griefe and care euery cell or organ-pipe of my purer intellectuall faculties, that no more they confort with any ingenuous playful merriments, of my note-books and all books else here in the countrey I am bereaued, whereby I might enainell and hatch ouer this deuice more artificially and masterly, and attire it in his true orient varnish and tincture, wherefore heart and good wil, a workman is nothing without his tooles, had I my topickes by me in stead of my learned counsell to affit me, I might haps marshall my termes in better aray, and bestow such cottly coquery on this *Marine magnifico* as you would preferre him before tart and galingale, which *Chaucer* preheminenteſt encomionizeth aboue all iunqueteries or confectionaries whatſoeuer.

Now you must accept of it as the place serues, and in ſtead of comfittes and ſugar to ſtrewe him with, take well in worth a farthing worth of flower to white him ouer and wamble him in, and I hauing no great pieces to discharge for his ben-uenue, or welcomming in, with this volley of *Rhapsodies* or ſmall ſhotte, he muſt reſt pacified, and ſo *Ad nem*, ſpurre cutte through thicke and thinne, and enter the triumphall charriot of the red herring.

Homer of rats and frogs hath heroiquit it, other oaten pipers after him in praise of the Gnat, the Flea, the Hasill nut, the Grashopper, the Butterflie, the Parrot, the Popiniay, Phillip ſparrow, and the Cuckowe; the wantonner ſort of them ſing deſcant on their miſtris gloue, her ring, her fanne, her looking glaffe, her pantofle, and on the ſame iurie, I might impannell *Johannes Secundus*, with his booke of the

The prayse of

two hundred kinde of fleises. Phylosophers come sneaking in with their paradoxes of pouertie, imprisonment, death, sickenesse, banishment, and baldnesse, and as busie they are aboue the bee, the storke, the constant turtle, the horse, the dog, the ape, the asse, the foxe, and the ferret. Physitians deafen our eares with the *Honorificabilitudinitatibus* of their heauy *Panacea* their soueraigne *Guacum*, their glisters, their triacles, their mithridates of fortie seuerall poysons compacted, their bitter *Rubarbe*, and torturing *Stibium*.

The posterior Italian and Germane cornugraphers, sticke not to applaude and canonize vnnaturall sodomitrie, the strumpet errant, the goute, the ague, the dropsie, the sciatica, follie, drunckennesse, and slouenry. The *Galli Gallinacei*, or cocking French swarne euery pissing while in their primmer editions, *Imprimed a iour dny*, of the vnspeakeable healthfull condicibleness of the *Gomorrian great Poco*, a *Poco*, their true countriman euery inch of him, the prescript lawes of *Tennis* or *Balonne* (which is most of their gentlemens chiefe liuelyhoodes) the commoditie of hoarsenes, bleare-eyes, scabdhams, threed-bare cloakes, potcht eggs, and *Panados*. Amongst our English harmonious calinos, one is vp with the excellency of the browne bill and the long bowe, another playes his prizes in print, in driving it home with all weapons in right of the noble science of defence: a third writes passing enamorately, of the nature of white-meates, and iustifies it vnder his hand to be bought & sould euery where, that they exceede *Nectar*, & *Ambrosia*; a fourth comes foorth with someting in prayse of nothing: a fift of an enflamed heale to coppersinthes hal, all to beerimes it of the diuersitie of red noses, and the hierarchy of the nose magnificat. A sixt, sweeps behinde the dore all earthly felicities, and makes Bakers maulkins of them, if they stand in competencie with a strong dozen of poyntes; marrie they must be poyntes of the matter, you must consider, where-

of the formost codpisse poynt is the cranes prouerbe in painted clothes feare God, and obey the king, and the rest some hauetaggis, and some haue none. A feuenth settes a *Tobacco* pipe in stead of a trumpet to his mouth, and of that diuine drugge proclaimeth miracles. An eygth cappers it vp to the shpeares in commendation of daunsing. A ninth, offers sacrifice to the goddesse *Cloaca*, and disportes himselfe very schollerly and wittilie aboute the reformation of close stooles and houses of office, and spicing and embalming their rancke in trailes, that they stincke not. A tenth, settes forth remedies of *Tostedturnes* against famine.

To these I might wedge in *Cornelius* the brabantine, who was fellowiously suspected in 87. for penning a discourse of *Tuftmockados*, and a countrey gentleman of my acquaintance who is launching forth a treatise as bigge garbd as the french *Academy* of the *Cornucopia* of a cowe and what an aduantageable creature shee is, beyonde all the foure footed rablement of *Herbagers* and grasse chimpers, day nor night that shee can rest for filing and tainpring aboute it) as also a sworne brother of his that so bebangeth poore paper in laud of a bag-pudding as a swizer would not belieue it. Neither of their *Decads* are yet stampt but eare midsummer tearme they will be if their wordes bee sure payment, and then tell me if our English sconses be not right Sheffield or no.

The application of this whole catalogue of wast authours is no more but this, *Quot capita tot sententiae*, so many heades so many whirlegigs, and if all these haue *Terlery-ginckt* it so friuolously of they reckt not what I may *Cum gratia & priuilegio* pronounce it, that a red herring is wholsesome in a frosty morning, and rake vp some fewe scattered sillables together in the exornation and pollishing of it. No more excursions and circumquaques but *Totaliter a appositorum*.

That English marchandise is most precious which no country can be without, if you aske *Suffolke*, *Essex*, *Kent*, *Sussex*, or *Lemster*, or *Cotswold*, what marchandise that shoulde

See the Epistle
comemndato-
rie, before M.
Samuell Dani-
els translatiō of
the Empreses
of Paulus Ioui-
us.

bee, they will answe you it is the very same which *Polidore Virgill* cals *Verè aureum vellus*, the true golden fleece of our woll and English cloth and nought else, other engrating vp-land cormorants will grunt out it is *Grana paradisi* our grain or corne that is most sought after. The Westernes and Northernes that it is lead tinne and iron. Butter and cheese, butter and cheese saith the farmer, but frō euery one of these I dissent and wil stoutely bide by it, that to trowle in the cash throughout all nations christendome there is no fellowe to the red herring. The French Spanish and Italian haue wool inough of their owne wherof they make cloth to serue their turne, though it be somewhat courser then ours. For corne, none of the East parts bnt surpasseth vs, of leade and tinne is the most scarsity in forraine dominions, and plenty with vs, though they are not vtterly barraine of them. As for iron about *Isenborough* and other places of *Germany*, they haue quadruple the store that wee haue. As touching butter and cheese the *Hollanders* cry by your leaue wee must goe before you, and the *Transalpiners* with their lordly *Par-mas*, (so named of the city of *Parma* in Italy where it is first clout-crushed and made) shoulder in for the vpper hand as hotly, when as of our appropriate glory of the red herring, no region twixt the poles articke and antartick may can or will rebate from vs one scruple.

On no coast like ours is it caught in such abundance, no where dreit in his right cue but vnder our Horizon; hotted rosted and tosted heere alone it is, and as well poudred and salted as any Dutchman would desire. If you articulate with me of the gaine or profit of it, without the which the newe fangleſt raritic, that no body can boalt of but our selues, af-ter three dayes gazing is reuerſt ouer to children for babies to play with, behold, it is euery mans money from the King to the Courtier; euery housholder or goodman *Baltrop*, that keepes a family in pay, casts for it as one of his ſtanding pro-visions. The poorer ſort make it three parts of there ſuste-
nanuce

inance, with it for his dinnier the patchedest Leather pliche
laboratho may dinelike a Spanish Duke, when the niggard-
liest mouse of biese will cost him sixpence. In the craft of
catching or taking it, and smudging it Merchant and chap-
manable as it should be, it sets a worke thousands, who liue
all the rest of the yeare gayly well, by what in some fewe
weekes they scratch vp then, and come to beare office of
Questinan and Scauinger in the Parish where they dwell,
which they could never haue done, but would haue begd or
starud with their wiues and brattes, had not this Captaine of
the squamy cattell so stode their good Lord and master:
Carpenters, Shipwrights, makers of lines, roapes and cables,
dressers of Hempe, spinners of thred, and net weauers it giues
their handfuls to, sets vp so many salt-houses to make salt,
and salt vpon salt; keepes in earnings the Cooper, the Brewer
the Baker, and numbers of other people, to gill, wash and
packe it, and carrie it and recarrie it.

In exchange of it from other Countries they returne wine
and Woades, for which is alwaies paide ready Golde, with
salt, Canuas, Vitre, and a great deale of good trash. Her
Maietie's tributes and customes, this Semper Augustus of the
Seas finnie freeholders, augmenteth & enlargeth vncoun-
tably, and to the encrease of Nauigation, for her seruice hee
is no enemie.

Voiages of purchase or reprisals, which are now grown a
common traffique, swallow vp and consume more Saylers
and Marriners then they bree de, and lightly not a slop of a
ropehaler they send forth to the Queenes ships, but hee is
first broken to the Sea in the Herring mans Skiffe or Cock-
boate, where haing learned to brooke all waters, and
drinke as he can out of a tarrie Canne, and eate poore John
out of swuttie platters when he may get it without butter or
mustard, there is no ho with him but once hartned thus, hee
will needes be a man of warre, or a Tobacco taker, and weare
a siluer Whistle. Some of these for their haughtie climbing

come hoine with wooden legges and some with none, but leaue body and all behinde, those that escape to bring news, tell of nothing but eating Tallow and yong black-amores, of fwe and fwe to a Rat in euery messe, and the ship-boy to the tayle, of stopping their noses when they drunke stinking water that came out of the puwe of the ship, and cutting a greasie buffe ierkin in tripes and broiling it for their dinners. Diuers Indian aduentures haue beene seasoned with direr mishaps, not hauing for eight dayes space the quantity of a candles-end among eight score to grease their lippes with, and landing in the end to seeke food, by the canibal Sauages they haue bene circumuented, and forced to yeeld their bodies to feed them.

Our mitred Archpatriarch *Leopold* herring exacts no such

* That is for a man to be his owne executi-
oner, and at his Princes becke to go vp to the top of the rock, and thence throw himselfe headlong.

c Fol. 63. pag. 2.

* Muscouian vassallage of his liegemen, though hee put them to their trumps other while, and scuppets not his beneficence into their mouthes with such freshwater facility as *M. Ascham* in his Schoolemaster would imply. His wordes these in his censure vpon *Varro*: *Hee enters not (sayth he) into any great depth of eloquence, but as one carried in a small low vessell by himselfe very nigh the common shore, not much unlike the fisher men of Rie, or herring men of Yarmouth, who deserue by common mens opinion small commendation for any cunning sailing at all.* Well, he was her Maiesties Schoolemaster, and a *S. Johns* man in Cambridge, in which house once I tooke vp my inne for seuen ycre together lacking a quarter and yet loue it still, for it is and euer was the sweetest nurse of knowledge in all that Vniuersity. Therefore I will keepe faire quarter with him, and expostulate the matter more tamely. *Memorandum non abuno*, I vary not a minnum from him, that in the captious mystery of Mounsieur herring low vessels will not giue their heads for the washing, holding their owne pell-mell in all weathers as roughly as vaster timber men, though not so neere the shore, as through ignorance of the coast he soundeth, nor one man by himselfe alone to

doe

do euery thing, which is the opinion of one man by himselfe alone, and not beleeu'd of any other. Five to one if he were aliue, I would beate against him, since one without five is as good as none, to gouerne the most egshell shallop that floa-
teth, and spread her nets, and draw them in, As stify could I controuert it with him about pricking his card so badly in *Cape Norfolke* or *Sinus Yarmouthiensis* and discrediting our countrymen for shorecreepers, like these Colchester oy-
stermen, or whiting-mungers and sprot-catchers. Solyman Herring woulde you shoulde perswade your selues is loftier minded and keepeth more aloofe then so, and those that are his followers if they will seeke him where hee is, more then common daunger they must incurre in close driuing vnder the sands which alternately or betwixt times when he is dis-
posed to ensconce himselfe are his entrenched Randevowe or castle of retiring, and otherwhile fortie or threescoare leagues in the roaring territory they are glad on their wod-
den horses to post after him, and scourc it with their ethiope pitchbordes till they be windlesse in his quest and pursuing. Returning from waiting on him, haue with you to the *Adri- atique* and abroade euery where far and neere to make port-
sale of their perfumed smoaky commodities, and that toyle rockt a sleepe they are for *Ultima Thule* the northseas or *Is- land*, and thence yerke ouer that worthy *Pallamede don pedro de linge*, and his worshipfull nephew *Hugo Habberdine*, and a trundle-taile tike or shaugh or two, and towardes *Michel- mas* scud home to catch Herring againe. This argues they shoulde haue some experiance of nauigation, and are not such *Halcyons* to builde their neastes all on the shoare as *M. Asciam* supposeth.

Rie is one of the antient townes belonging to the cinque ports yet limpeth cinque ace behinde Yarmouth, and it wil sincke when Yarmouth riseth, and yet if it were put in the ballance against Yarmouth, it woulde rise when Yarmouth sincketh, and to stand threshing no longer about it, *Rie* is Ry

and no more but Rie and Yarmouth wheate compared with it. Wherefore had he bone a right clarke of the market, he would haue set a higher price on the one then the other, and set that one of highest price aboue the other.

Those that deserue by common mens opinion small commendation for any cunning sailing at all, are not the Yarmouthers how euer there is a foule fault in the print escapt, that curstly squinteth and leereth that way, but the bonnie Northren cobbles of his countrey, with their Indian canaos or boats like great beefe trayes or kneading troughs, firking as flight swift thorow the glassy fieldes of *Thetis*, as if it were the land of yce, and sliding ouer the boiling desert so earely, and neuer bruise one bubble of it, as though they contended to out-strip the light-foot tripper in the *Metamorphisis*, who would run ouer the ripe-bending eares of corne, and neuer shed or perish one kirnell. No such yron-fisted *Ciclops* to hew it out of the flint, and runne thorow any thing as these frost-bitten crab-tree fac't lads spurne out of the hards of the towe, which are Donsel herrings lackeys at Yarmouth euery fishing.

Let the carreeringest billow confesse and absoluue it selfe, before it pricke vp his bristles against them, for if it come vp on his dancing horse, and offer to tilt it with them, they will aske no trustier lances then their oares to beat out the brains of it, and stop his throat from belching.

These rubbes remooued, on with our game as fast as wee may, & to the gaine of the red herring againe another crash. *Item* if it were not for this *Huniades* of the liquid element, that word *Quadragesima*, or Lent might be cleane spung'd out of the Kalender, with Rogation weeks, Saints eues, and the whole Reginans roule of fasting dayes, and Fishmongers might keepe Christmaste all the yeere, for any ouerlauffish takings they shold haue of clownes and clouted shooes, and the rubbish inciality their best customers, and their bloody aduersaries the butchers would neuer leaue cleaung.

uing it out in the whole chines, till they had got a Lord Maior of their company as well as they. Nay out of their wits they would be haunted with continuall takings, & stand crosse-gag'd with kniues in their mouthes from one Shroft-tuisday to another, and weare candles-enes in their hattes at midsommer, hauing no time to shauue their prickes, or washe their flyeblowne aprons if Domingo Rufus or Sacrapant herring caused nor the dice to runne contrary.

The Rhomish rotten Pithagoreans or Carthusian friers, that muinpe on nothing but fishe, in what a flegmatique predicament would they be, did not this counterpoyson of the spitting sickenesse (sixtiefolde more restorative then Bezzer) patch them out and preserue them, which being double rosted and dryde as it is, not onely sucks vp all rheumaticke inundations, but is a shooing-horne for a pinte of wine ouer-plus.

The sweete sinacke that Yarmouth findes in it, and how it hath made it Lippitudo Atticae (as it was saide of Agina her neere adiacent comfronter) the blenish and staine of all her salt-water sisters in England, and multiplide it from a moulhill of sand, to a cloude-crowned mount Teneriffe, abbreviately and meetely according to my old Sarum plaine song I haue harpt vpon, and that, if there were no other certificat or instance of the inlinked consanguinitie twixt him and Lady Lucar, is Instar mille, worth a million of witnesses, to exemplifie the ritches of him. The Poets were triuiall, that set vp Helens face for such a top-gallant Summer May-pole for men to gaze at, and strouted it out so in their buskind braues of her beautie, whereof the onely Circes Heypasse, and Repasse was that it drewe a thousand ships to Troy, to fetch her backe with a pestilence. Wise men in Greece in the meane while to swagger so aboute a whore.

Eloquions hoarie beard father Nestor, you were one of them, and you M. Vlisses the prudent dwarfe of Pallas another, of whome it is Iliadized that your very nose dropt su-

In olde time
they vsed to
wring out at a-
ny miracle.

The sea bat-
taile at Lepan-
ta fought in
the beginning
of her Maie-
sties raigne.

gar candie, and that your spittle was honye. *Natalis Comes* if he were aboue ground, would be sworne vpon it. As loude a ringing miracle as the attractiue melting eye of that strū-
pet can we supply the with of our dappert *Piemont Huldrick* *Herring*, which draweth more barkes to Yarmouth bay, then her beautie did to *Troy*. O he is attended vpon most *Babilo-*
nically, and Xerxes so ouercloyd not the *Hellepont* with his
foystes, gallies, and brigandines, as he mantleth the narrow
seas with his retinue, being not much behinde in the check-
roule of his *Ianissaries* and contributories, with *Eagle-soaring*
Bullingbrooke, that at his remouing of household into banish-
ment (as father *Froyard* threpes vs downe) was accompa-
nied with 40000, men wemen and children weeping, from
London to the landes end at Douer. A colony of criticall
Zenos should they sinnow their sillogisticall clutter-fistes in
one bundle to confute and disproue mouing, were they but
during the time they might lap vp a messe of buttred fish, in
Yarmouth one fishing, such a violent motion of toyling *Mir*
midons they should be spectators of and a confused stirring to
and fro, of a *Lapantalike* hoast of vnfatigable flud bickerers
and foame-curbers, that they woulde not moue or stir one
foote till they had disclaimd and abiurd their bedred spittle-
positiōs. In verament and sincerity I neuer crowded through
this confluent herring faire, but it put me in memory of the
great yeare of Iubile in *Edward the thirds time*, in which it
is sealed and deliuered vnder the handes of a publique nota-
ry, three hundred thousand people roimed to Rome for pur-
gatorie pils and paternal veniall benedictions, and the waies
beyond sea were so bungd vp with your dayly oratours or
Beads-men and your crutchet or croutchant friers or crosse-
creepers and barefoote penitentiaries, that a snaile coulde
not wriggle in her hornes betwixt them. Small thinges we
may expresse by great, and great by smal, though the great-
nesse of the redde herring be not small as small a hoppe on
my thumbe as hee seemeth) It is with him as with great per-
sonages

sonages, which from their high estate and not their high stature propagates the eleuaute titles of their Gogmagognes, Cast his state who will and they shall finde it to be very high coloured (as high coloured as his complexion if I saide there were not a pimple to be abated) In Yarmouth he hath set vp his state house, where one quarter of a yare he keepes open court for *Jewes* and gentiles.

To fetch him in, in * *Troian Equipage* some of cuery of the Christ-crosse Alphabet of outlandish *Cosmopolis* furrowe vp the rugged brine, and sweepe through his tumultuous oous will or nill hee rather then in tendering their alleagance they should be benighted with tardity. For our English *Mikrokosmos* or *Phenician Didos* hide of grounde; no shire, county, count palatine, or quarter of it, but rigs out some oken squadron or other to waft him along * *Cleopatraen* * *Olimplickly*, and not the dimunutivel nooke or creuise of them but is parturiēt of the like superofficiousnes, * arming forth though it be but a catch or pinck no capabler then a rundlet or washing bowle, to impe the wings of his conuoy. *Holy S. Taurbard* in what droues the gouty bagd Londoners hurry down and die the watchet aire of anyron russet hue with the dust that they raise in hot spurd rowelling it on to performe complementes vnto him. One becke more to the balias of the cinque portes, whomie I were a ruder *Barbarian* then *Smill* the Prince of the *Crims & Nagayans* if in this actiō I should forget (hauing had good cheare at their tables more then once or twice whiles I loytred in this paragōlesse fish town) City, towne, country, Robin hoode and little John and who not, are industrious and carefull to squire and safe conduct him in, but in vshering him in next to the balias of Yarmoth, they trot before all, and play the prouost marshals helping to keep good rule the first three weeks of his ingresse, and neuer leauue roaring it out with their brasen horne as long as they stay, of the freedomes and immunitiess soursing frō him. Beēing thus entred or brought in the confitorians or settled

* The fattall
wodden horse
at Troy fetcht
in with such
pompe.

Cleopatras
glorious say-
ling to meece
Anthony.

* The solemne
bringing of the
champions at
Olimpus.

1. Tugging
forth by the
strength of
their armes.

standers of Yarmouth, commense intestine warres amongst themselues who should giue him the largest hospitality, and gather about him as flocking to hant him and strike him good luck as the Sweetkin Madans did about valiat S. Walter Manny the martiall tutor vnto the Blacke prince (he that built Charterhouse) who being vpon the point of a hazzardous iourney into France, either to win the horse or lose the saddle (as it runs in the Proverb) & taking his leaue at Court in a sute of male fro top to toe, all the ladies clung about him, and would not let him stretch out a step till they had ensetred him with their variable fauours, and embroidred ouer his armour like a gaudy Summer meade, with three scarves, bracelets, chains, ouches: in generous reguerdement wherof he sacramentally obliged himselfe, that had the French king as many giants in his countrey as hee hath peares or grapes, and they stood all enranged on the shore to interdict his disunbarking, through the thickest thornie quickset of thē he would pierce, or be tost vp to heauen on their speares, but in honour of those debonaire Idalian nimphs and their spangled trappings, he would be the first man should set foot in his kingdome, or unsheath steele against him. As he promised so was his * manly blades execution, and in emulation of him, whole heards of knights and gentlemen clos'd vp their right eyes with a piece of silke cuery one, & vowed neuer to vncouer them or let thē see light, til in the aduancement of their mistresse beauties, they had enacted with their brandisht bilbowblades some chualrous *Bellerophons* trick at armes, that from Salomons Ilands to S. Magnus corner might cry clang againe. O it was a braue age then, and so it is euer, where there are offensive wars, and not defensive, & men fight for the spoile, and not in feare to be spoiled, & are as lions seeking out their pray, and not as sheepe that lie still whiles they are prayd on. The redde herring is a legate of peace, and so abhorrent from vnnatural bloudshed, that if in his quarrell or bandying, who should harbing him, there be

*Manny quasi
Manly, & from
him I take it
the Mannies of
Kent are de-
scended.

any.

any hewing or flashing, or trials of life & death, there where that hang. in an embowelling is, his pursiuants or baliere returne *non est inuentus*, out of one bailiwick he is fled, neuer to be fastened on there more. The Scotish Lockies or Redshanks (so surnamed of their immoderate raunching vp the redshanks or red herrings) vpholde & make good the same. Their clacke or gabbling to this purport: *How in diebus illis, when Robert de Breaux their gud king sent his deare heart to the haly land, for reason he caud not gang thider himselfe (or then or thereabout, or whilome before, or whilome after, it matters not) they had the staple or fruits of the herring in their road or channell, till a foule illfeud arose amongst his sectaries and seruitours, and there was mickle tule, and a blacke warld, and a deale of whinyards drawne about him, and many sacklesse myghts and praty barnes run through the tender weambs, and fra thence ne sarry taile of a herring in thilke sound they caud gripe.* This language or parley haue I vsurpt from some of the deffest lads in all Edenborough towne, which it will be no impeachment for the wifest to turne loose for a trueth, without any diffident wrastling with it. The sympathy thereunto in our owne frothy streames we haue tooke napping, wherfore without any further bolstring or backing, this Scotish history may beare palme, & if any further bolstring or backing be required, it is euident by the confession of the sixe hundred Scotish witches executed in Scotland at Bartelmewtide was twelue-moneth, that in Yarmouth road they were all together in a plumppe on Christmasse eue was two yere when the great floud was, & there stird vp such *ternados* & *furicanos* of tempests, in envy (as I collect) that the staple of the herring from them was translated to Yarmouth, as will be spoke of there whiles any winds or stormes & tempests chafe & pufte in the lower region. They and all the seafaring townes vnder our temperate zone of peace, may well envy her prosperity, but they cannot march cheeke by iowle with her or coequall her, and ther's no such manifest signe of great prosperity as a

generall enuy encompassing it. Kings, noble-men it cleaves vnto that walke vpright, and are any thing happy, & euен amongst meane artificers it thrusts in his foot, one of the enuying another if he haue a knack aboue another, or his gains be greater, and if in his arte they cannot disgrace him, they will finde a starting hole in his life that shall confound him:

*John Thurkle for example: There is * a matheinaticall Smith or artificer in Yarmouth that hath made a locke and key that weighes but three farthings, and a chest with a paire of knit gloves in the till of it, whose whole poise is no more but a groat, now I do not thinke but all the Smiths in London, Norwich or Yorke (if they heard of him) would enuy him, if they could not outworke him.

*The Sybarites never woulde make any banquet vnder a twelue-moneths warning.
Hydra herring will haue euery thing * Sybarite dainty, where he lays knife aboord, or he wil fly them, he wil not looke vpon them. Stately borne, stately sprung he is, the best bloud of the Ptolomies no statelier, and with what state he hath bene vsed from his swadling clouts, I haue reiterated vnto you, and which is a note aboue *ela*, stately *Hyperion* or the lordly sonne, the most rutilant planet of the seue, in Lent when *Heralius* herring enters into his chiese reign and scepter dome, skippeth and danfeth the goats iumpe on the earth for ioy of his entrance. Do but marke him on your walles any morning at that season how he sallies & laualtos, and you wil say I am no fabler. Of so eye bewitching a deaurate ruddie dy is the skincoat of this *Lantsgraue*, that happy is that nobleman who for his colours in armory can neerest imitate his chimicall temper, nay which is more, if a man should tell you that god *Himens* saffron colour'd robe were made of nothing but red herrings skins, you would hardly beleue him: such is the obduracy & hardnesse of heart of a number of infidels in these dayes, they wlll teare herrings out of their skins as fast as one of these Exchequer tellers can turne ouer a heape of money, but his vertues both exterior and interior they haue no more taite of, then of a dish of stockfish. Some-
 where I haue snatched vp a ieast of a king that was desirous to

try what kinde of flesh-meat was most nutritiue prosperous with a mans body, and to that purpose he commanded foure hungry fellowes, in foure separate roomes by themselues to bee shut vp for a yare and a day, whereof the first shoulde haue his gut bumbasted with biefe and nothing else, till hee cride hold belly holde, and so the second to haue his paunch cramnd with porke, the third with mutton, & the fourth with veale. At the twelue moneths ende they were brought before him, & he enquired of euery one orderly what he had eat. Therewith outstept the stallfed foreman that had bin at holt with the fat oxe, and was growne as fat as an oxe with tiring on the surloynes, and baft in his face Biefe, Biefe, Biefe. Next the Norfolke hog or the swine-wurrier, who had got him a sagging paire of cheeks like a sows paps that giues suck, with the plentyfull mast set before him, came lazily wadling in, and pufst out Porke, Porke, Porke. Then the fly sheepe-biter issued into the midst, and summer setted & fliptflapt it twenty tiimes aboue ground as light as a feather and cride mitton, mitton, mitton, last the Essex calfe or lagman, who had lost the calues of his legs with gnawing on the horslegs, shudring and quaking limpte after, with a visage as pale as a peece of white leather, and a staffe in his hande and a kirchiefe on his head, and very lamentably vociferated veale, veale, veale. A witty toy of his noble grace it was, and different from the recipes and prescriptions of our moderne phisitions, that to any sicke languishers if they be able to waggle their chaps, propound veale for one of the highest nourishers.

But had his principalitie gone thorough with fish as well as flesh, and put a man to liuery with the red herring but as long, he would haue come in *Hurrey, Hurrey, Hurrey*, as if he were harrying and chasing his enemies, & *Beuis of Hampton* after he had bene out of his diet, should not haue bene able to haue stood before him. A chollerick parcell of food it is, that who so ties himselfe to racking and manger to for faine summers, and faine winters, he shall beget a child that will be a souldiour and a commaunder before hee hath cast his first

As much to say
as Vrrey, Vr-
rey, Vrrey one
of the princi-
pall places
where the her-
ring is caught.

teeth, & an *Alexander*, a *Julius Cæsar*, a *Scanderbega Barba-rossa* he will proue ere he aspire to thirtie,

But to thinke on a red Herring, such a hot stirring meate it is, is enough to make the crauencst dastard proclaine fire and sword against Spaine. The most intenerate Virgine wax phisnomy, that taints his throate with the least ribbe of it, it will embrawne and Iron crust his flesh, and harden his soft bleding vaines as stiffe and robustious, as branches of Cor-rall. The art of kindling of fires that is practised in the smo-king or parching of him, is old dog against the plague. Too foule-mouthed I am to beollow or becollier, him with such chimnie sweeping attributes of smoking and parching. Wil you haue the secrete of it, this well-meaning *Pater patriæ*, & prouiditore and supporter of Yarmouth (which is the locke and key of Norfolke) looking pale and sea-sickke at his first landing, those that be his stewards or necessariest men about him, whrtle him in a thought out of the raw colde ayre, to some stew or hot house, where immuring himselfe for three or foure dayes, when he vn-houseth him, or hath cast off his shel, he is as freckled about the gils, & lookes as red as a Fox, clumme & is more surly to be spoken with then euer he was before, and like *Lais of Corinth*, will smile vpon no man ex-cept he may haue his owne asking. There are that number of Herrings vented out of Yarmouth every yeare (though the Grammarians make no plurall number of *Halee*) as not only they are more by two thousand. Last then our owne land can spend, but they fil all other lands, to whome at their owne prises they sell them, and happie is he that can first lay hold of them. And how can it bee otherwise, for if Cornish Pilchards otherwise called *Fumados*, taken on the shore of Cornwall, from July to Nouember, bee so saleable as they are in Fraunce, Spaine and Italy, (which are but countefets to the red Herring as Copper to Golde, or Ockamie to sil-uer, much more, there elbows itch for ioy, when they meeete with the true Golde, the true red Herring it selfe. No true flying fish but he, or if there be, that fish neuer flies but when

his

his wings are wet, and the red Herring flyes best when his wings are dry, throughout Belgia, high Germanie, Fraunce, Spaine and Italy hee flyes, and vp into Greece, and Africa South, and Southwest, Estritch-like walkes his stations, and the Sepulcher, Palmers or Pilgrims, Because hee is so portable fill their Scrips with them, yea no dispraise to the bloud of the Ottamans, the Nabuchedonesor of Constantiople, and Giantly *Antaeus* that neuer yawneth nor neezeth but he affrighteth the whole earth, gormandizing, muncheth him vp for imperiall dainties, and will not spare his Idol *Mahomet* a bit with him, no not though it would fetch him from heauen fortie yeares before histime, whence with his Doue that he taught to pecke Barley out of his eare, and brought his Disciples into a fooles paradise, that it was the holy ghost in her similitude, he is expected every minute to descend, but I am afraid, as he was troubled with the falling sicknesse, in his life time, in selfe manner it tooke him in his mounting vp to heauen, & so *ab inferno nulla redemptio*, he is falne backward into hell, and they are neuer more like to heare of him. Whiles I am shuffling and cutting with these long coated Turkes, would any antiquarie would explicate vnto mee this remblere or quidditie, whether those *Turbanto* grout-heads, that hang all men by the throates on Iron hookes, even as our Toers hang all there Herrings by the throates on wodden spits, first learnt it of our Herring men, or cur herringinen of them. Why the Alcheronship of that Belzabub of *Saracens*, *Rhinoceros Zelim* aforesaid, should so much delight in this shinie animall, I cannot gesse, except hee had a desire to imitate *Midas* in eating of gold, or *Dionisius* in stripping of *Jupiter* out of his golden Coate; and to shoothe my fooles bolt amongst you, that fable of *Midas* eating gold had no other shadow or inclusiue pith in it, but he was of a queasie stomacke, and nothing hee coulde fancie, but this newe found gilded fish, which *Bacchus* at his request gaue him, (though it were not knowne here two thousand yea

Turbanto, the
great Iawne
roule Turkes
were aboute
their heads.

*Nashes Mythologie
of the fable of
Midas*

27.

after, for it was the delicates of the gods, & no mortall foode
 til of late yeares) *Midas* vnexperient of the nature of it, (for
 he was a foole that had asses eares) snapt it vp at one blow, &
 because in the boyling or seathing of it in his maw, he felt it
 commotion a little and vpbraide him, he thought he had ea-
 ten golde in deede, and thereupon directed his Orizons to
Bacchus afresh, to helpe it out of his crop againe, and haue
 mercy vpon him and recouer him, hee propensiue inclining
 to *Midas* deuotion in euery thing, in lieu of the friendly hos-
 pitalities, drunken *Silenus* his companion found at his hands
 when he strayed from him, bad him but goe wash himselfe
 in the riuier *Pactolus*, that is, goe wash it downe soundly with
 flowing cups of Wine and he should be as well as euer hee
 was. By the turning of the riuier *Pactolus* into golde, after he
 had ren'ct and clarified himselfe in it (which is the close of
 the fiction) is signified that in regard of that blessed operati-
 on of the juice of the grape in him, from that day forth in no-
 thing but golden cups he would drinke or quaffe it, whereas
 in wodden Mazers, and *Agathocles* earthen stiffe, they tril-
 lild it off before, and that was the first time that any golden
 cups wervsed.

Follow this tract in expounding the tale of *Dionisius* and
Jupiter, and you cannot goe amisse. No such *Jupiter*, no such
 golden coated image was there: but it was a plaine golden
 coated red herring without welt or garde, whome for the
 strangenes of it (they hauing neuer beheld a beast of that
 hue before) in their temples inshrined for a God, and in so-
 much as *Jupiter* had shewed the such slippery pranckes more
 then once or twice, in shifting himselfe into sundry shapes,
 and rayning himselfe downe in golde into a womans lappe,
 they thought this too might be a tricke of youth in him, to
 alter himselfe into the forme of this golden *Scali-ger*, or red
 herring. And therefore as to *Jupiter* they fell downe on their
 marybones, & lift vp their hay-cromes vnto him. Now king
Dionisius being a good wise-fellow, for he was afterwards a
 schoolemaster, & had plaid the coatchnan to *Plato* & spit in

Aristop-

Aristippus the Philosophers face many a time and oft, no sooner entred their temple, & saw him sit vnder his Canopie so budgely with a whole Goldsmiths stall of iewelles and rich offerings at his feete, but to him he stapt, and pluckt him from his state with a wennon, then drawing out his knife most iracundiously, at one whiske lopt off his head, and stript him out of his golden demy or mandillion, and fled him, and thrust him downe his pudding house at a gobbe: yet long it prospered not with him, (so reuengefull a iust Jupiter is the red Herring) for as he tare him from his throne, and vacased him of his habiliments, so in final deuolution of yeres, from his throne was he chaced, and cleane stript out of his royalty, & glad to go play the Schoolemaister at Corinth, and take a rodde in his hand for his scepter, and horne-booke Pigmeis for his subiects, *id est*, (as I intimated some dozen lines before) of a tyrant to become a frowning pedant or schoolemaister.

Many of you haue read these stories, and coulde neuer picke out any such English, no more woulde you of the Ismael Persians Haly, or *Mortus Alli*, they worship, whose true etimologic is, *mortuum haleo*, a dead red herring, and no other, though by corruption of speech, they false dialect and misse-sound it. Let any Persian oppugne this, and in spite of his hairie tuft or loue-locke he leaues on the top of his crowne, to be pulld vp, or pullied vp to heauen by, Ile set my foot to his, & fight it out with him, that their fopperly god is not so good as a red Herring. To recount *ab omo*, or from the church-booke of his birth, howe the Herring first came to be a fish, and then how he came to be king of fishes, and gradionately, how from white to red he changed, would require as massie a toombe as Hollinshead, but in halfe a penniworth of paper I

will epitomize them. Let me see, hath any bodie in Yarmouth heard of Leander and Hero, of whome diuine Musans sung, and a diuiner Muse than him, Kit Marlowe?

27 1568 Twoo faithfull louers they were, as euerie apprentise in Paules chuchyard will tell you for your loue, and sel you for your mony: the one dwelt at Abidos in Asia, which was Leander, the other which was Hero, his Mistris or Delia, at Sestos in Europe, and she was a pretty pinckany and Venus priest; and but an arme of the sea diuided them: it diuided them and it diuided them not, for ouer that arme of the sea could be made a long arme. In their parents the most diuision rested, and their townes that like Yarmouth and Leystoffe were stil at wrig wrag, & suckt frō their mothers teates serpentine hatred one against each other. Which drove Leander when he durst not deale aboue boord, or be scene aboorde any ship, to saile to his Lady deare, to play the didopper and ducking water spaniel to swim to her, nor that in the day, but by owleight.

What will not blinde night doe for blinde Cupid? and what will not blinde Cupid doe in the night which is his blindmans holiday? By the sea side on the other side stooode Heroes tower, such an other tower as one of our Irish castles, that is not so wide as a bell-free, and a Cobler cannot iert out his elbowes in; a cage or pigeonhouse, romthsome enough to comprehend her and the toothlesse trotte her nurse, who was her onely chatimate and chambermaide; consultively by her parents being so encloistred frō resort, that she might liue chaste vestall Priest to Venus the queene of vna chastitie. Shee would none of that she thanked them, for shee was better prouided, and that which they thought serued their turn best of sequestring her from

from company, serued her turne best to embrace the company she desired. Fate is a spaniel that you cannot beate from you; the more you think to crosse it, the more you blesse it, and further it.

Neither her father nor mother vowed chastitie when she was begote, therefore she thought they begat her not to liue chaste, & either she must proue hir selfe a bastard, or shew hir selfe like them. Ot Leander you may write vpon, and it is written vpon, she likte well, and for all he was a naked man, and cleane dispoyled to the skinne, when hee sprawled through the brackish fuddes to scale her tower, all the strength of it could not hold him out. O ware a naked man, Cinthereaes Nunnes haue no power to resiste him : and some such qualitie is ascribed to the lion. Were hee neuer so naked when he came to her, because he shuld not skare her, she found a meanes to couer him in her bed, & for he might not take cold after his swimming, she lay close by him, to keepe him warme. This scuffling or boopeepe in the darke they had a while without weame or bracke, and the olde nurse (as there bee three things seldome in their right kinde till they bee old, a bawd, a witch, and a midwife) executed the huck string office of her yeres very charily & circumspectly til their sliding starres reuolted from them: an then for seauen dayes togither, the winde and the Hellef-
pont contended which shuld howle lowder, the waues dashed vp to the cloudes, and the clouds on the other side spit and driueld vpon them as fast.

²⁶⁷⁷ Hero wept as trickling as the heauens, to thinke that heauen should so diuorce them. Leander storned worse than the stormes, that by them hee should be so restrained from his Cinthya. At Sestos was his soule, and hee coulde not abide to tarry in Abidos. Rayne, snowe, haile, or blowe it howe it could,
^{abio}

into the pitchie Helespont he leapt when the moone
and all her torch-bearers were afraide to peepe out
their heads; but he was peppered for it, hee hadde as
good haue tooke meate, drinke, and leisure, for the
churlish frampold waues gaue him his belly full of
fish-broath, ere out of their laundry or washe-house
they woulde graunt him his coquet or *transire*, and
not onely that, but they sealde him his *quietus est*, for
curuetting any mere to the mayden tower, and tossed
his dead carcasse, well bathed or parboyled, to the
sandy threshold of his leman or ornge, for a disiune
or morning breakfast. All that liue long night could
she not sleepe, she was so troubled with the rheume,
which was a signe she should heare of some drowning:
Yet towards cocke-crowing she caught a little slum-
ber, and then shee dreamed that Leander and shee
were playing at chekcestone with pearles in the bot-
tome of the sea.

You may see dreames are not so vaine as they are
preached of, though not in vaine, Preachers inueigh
against them, and bende themselues out of the peo-
ples mindes, to exhale their foolish superstition. The
rheume is the students disease, and who study most,
dreame most. The labouring mens hands, glowe and
blister after their dayes worke: the glowing and bli-
string of our braines after our day labouring cogita-
tions are dreames, and those dreames are reaking va-
pours of no impression, if our matelesse cowches bee
not halfe empty. Hero hoped, and therefore shee
dreamed (as all hope is but a dreame) her hope was
where her heart was, and her heart winding and
turning with the winde, that might winde her heart
of golde to her, or else turne him from her. Hope
and feare both combatted in her, and both these are
wakefull, which made her at breake of day (what an

olde

old crone is the day, that is so long a breaking) to vnloope her luket or casement, to looke whence the blasts came, or what gate or pace the sea kept, when foorthwith her eyes bred her eye-sore, the first white whereon their transpiercing arrowes stuck, being the breathlesse corps of *Leander*: with the sodaine contemplation of this piteous spectacle of her loue, sudden to haddockes meate, her sorrowe could not choose but be indefinite, if her delight in him were but indifferent; and there is no woman but delights in sorrow, or she would not vse it so lightly for every thing.

Downe shee ranne in her loose night-gowne, and her haire about her eares (euen as *Semiramis* ranne out with her lie-pot in her hand, and her blacke dangling tresses about her shoulders with her iuory combe ensnarled in them, when she heard that *Babilon* was taken) and thought to haue kist his dead corse aliue againe, but as on his blew iellied sturgeon lips, she was about to clappe one of those warme plaisters, boyfrouns woolpacks of ridged tides came towling in, and raught him from her, (with a minde behike to carrie him backe to *Abidos*.) At that she became a frantick Bacchanal outright, & made no more bones but sprag after him, and so resignd vp her Priesthood, and left worke for *Musaeus* and *Kit Marlowe*. The gods, and gods and goddesses all on arowe bread and crow, from *Ops* to *Pomona*, the first applewife, were so dumpte with this miserable wracke, that they beganne to abhorre al moysture for the seas sake: and *Jupiter* could not endure *Ganimed* his cup-bearer to come in his presence, both for the dislike he bore to *Neptunes* baneful licour, as also that hee was so like to *Leander*. The sunne was so in his mumps vpon it, that it was almost noone before hee could go to cart that day, and then with so ill a will hee went, that hee had

thought to have toped his burning carre or Hurtie currie into the sea (as *Phaeton* did) to scotch it and dry it vppe, and at night when hee was begrimed with dust and sweate of his iourney, he would not descend as hee was woont, to wash him in the Ocean, but vnder a tree layde him downe to rest in his cloathes all night, and so did the scouling Moone vnder another fast by him, which of that are behighted the trees of the Sunne and Moone, and are the same that Syr *John Mandevile* tels vs hee spoke with, and that spoke to *Alexander*. *Venus*, for *Hero* was her priest, and *Iuno Lucina* the midwites goddesse, for she was now quickned, and cast away by the cruelty of *Eolus*, tooke bread and salt and eate it, that they would bee smartlie reuenged on that truculent windy iailour, and they forgot it not, for *Venus* made his sonne and his daughter to committ incest together. *Lucina*, that there might bee some lasting characters of his shame, helpe to bring her to bedde of a goodly boy, and *Eolus* boulting out al this, heapt murder vpon murder.

The dint of destiny could not be repeald in the reviving of *Hero* & *Leander*, but their heauenly hoods in theyr synode thus decreede, that for they were either of them seaborderers and drowned in the sea, stil to the sea they must belong, and bee diuided in habitation after death, as they were in their life time. *Leander*, for that in a cold darke testie night he had his pasport to *Charon*, they terminated to the unquiet cold coast of *Iceland*, where halfe the yeare is nothing but murke night, and to that fishe translated him, which of vs is termed *Ling*. *Hero*, for that she was pagled and timpanized, and sustained two losses vnder one, they footebald their heades togither, & protested to make the stem of her loynes of all fishes the flanting *Fabian* or *Palmerin* of *England*, which is

Cad-

Cadwallader Herring, and as their meetings were but seldome, and not so oft as welcome, so but seldome should they meeete in the heele of the weeke at the best mens tables, vpon Fridayes and Satterdayes, the holy time of Lent exempted, and then they might be at meate and meale for Ieuен weekes togither.

The nurse or mother Mainpudding that was a cowring on the backe side whiles these things were a tragedizing, led by the scritch or outcry to the prospect of this sorrowfull heigho, as soone as through the raueld button holes of her bleare eyes, she had suckt in & receiued such a reuelatiō of Doomesday, & that she saw her mistris mounted a cockhorse, & hoysted away to hell or to heauen on the backs of those rough headed russians, down she sunk to the earth, as dead as a doore naile, and never mump̄t crust after. Whereof their supernalities (hauing a drop or two of pitty left of the huge hogſhead of teares they spent for *Hero & Leander*) seemed to be something sorie, though they could not weepe for it, and because they would bee sure to haue a medicine that should make them weep at all times, to that kinde of graine they turned her, which wee call mustard-seede, as well for shee was a shrewish snappish bawd, that wold bite off a man's nose with an answere, and had rumatique sore eyes that ran alwaies, as that she might accompany *Hero & Leander* after death, as in hit life time: & hece it is that mustard bites a man so by the nose, & makes him weep & water his plants when he tasteth it: & that *Hero & Leander*, the red Herring and Ling, never come to the boord without mustard, their waiting maid: & if you marke it, mustard looks of the tanned wainscot hue, of such a withered wrinklefaced beldam as she was, that was a'tred thereinto. Louing Hero, how euer altered, had a smack of loue stil, & therfore to the coast of louing-
land

land (to Yarmouth neare adioyning, & within her libertie of Kirtley roade) she accustomed to come in pilgrimage euery yeaer, but contentions arising there, and shee remembryng the euent of the contentions betwixt *Sestos* and *Abidos*, that wrought both *Leanders* death and hers, shunneth it off late, and retireth more northwards, so she shunneth vnquiet Humber, because *Elstred* was drownd there, and the Scots Seas, as before, & euery other sea where any bloud hath bin spilt, for her owne seas sake, that spilt her sweete sweete hearts bloud and hers.

Whippet, turne to a new lesson, and strike wee vp Iohn for the King, or tell howe the Herring scrambled vp to be King of all fishes. So it fel vpon a time and tide, though not vpon a holiday, a faulconer bringing ouer certaine hawkes out of *Ireland*, and airing them aboue hatches on ship-boord, and giuing them stones to cast & scour, one of them broke loose from his fist ere he was aware, which beeing in her Kingdome when shee was got vpon her wings, and finding her selfe empie gorged after her casting, vp to heauen she towred to seeke pray, but there being no game to please her, downe she fluttered to the sea againe, and a speckled fish playing aboue the wa-
ter, at it she strooke, mistaking it for a partrich, A sharke or Tuberon that lay gaping for the flying fish hard by, what did me he, but seeing the marke fall so iust in his mouth, chopt aloft, and snapt her vp belles and all, at a mouthfull. The newes of this murderous act, carried by the Kings fisher to the eares of the land foules, there was nothing but arme, arme, arme, to sea, to sea, swallow & titmouse, to take chasticement of that trespassse of bloud & death committed against a peere of their bloud royal. Preparation was made, the muster taken, the leaders allotted, and had their
bils

bils to take vp pay; an old goshaule for general was appointed, for Marshall of the field a Sparhawk, whom for no former desert they putte in office, but because it was one of their linage had sustained that wrong, and they thought they would be more implacable in condoling and commiserating. The Peacockes with their spotted coates and affrighting voyces for heralds they prickt and enlisted, and the cockadoodling cocks for their trumpeters, (looke vpon any cocke, and looke vpon any trumpeter, and see if hee looke not as red as a cocke after his trumpetting, and a cocke as red as he after his crowing.) The kistrilles or windfuckers that filling themselves with winde, fly against the winde euermore, for their full-sailed standerdbearers, the Cranes for pikemen, and the woodcockes for demilances, and so of the rest euery one according to that place by nature whiche was most apt for. Away to the landes ende they trigge all the skie-bred chirpers of them, wwhen they came there, *Equora nos terrent & ponti tristis imago*, They had wings of goodwill to fly with, but no webbes on their feete to swimme with, for except the waterfoules had mercie vpon them, and stood their faithfull confederates and backe-friends, on their backes to transport them, they might returne home like good fooles, and gather strawes to build their nests, or tal to theyr old trade of picking wormes. In sum, to the water foules vnanimately they recourse, and besought Ducke, and Drake, Swanne and Goose, Halcions & Scapies, Cormorants & Sea-guls of their oary assistance, & aydeful furtherance in this action.

They were not obdurate to be intreated, though they had little cause to reuenge the hawkes quarrell from them, hauing receiued so many high displeasures, and slaughters, and rapines of their race.

yet in a generall prosecution priuate feuds they trode vnderfoote, and submitted their endeuors to be at theyr limitation in euery thing.

The puffin that is halfe fish, halfe flesh (a Iohn indifferent, and an Ambodexter betwixt either) bewrayed this conspiracie to Proteus heards, or the fraternity of fishes, which the greater giants of Russia & Island, as the whale, the sea horse, the Norse, the wasserman, the Dolphin the Grampoys fleered and geered at as a ridiculous danger, but the lesser pigmeis & spawne of them, thought it meete to prouide for themselues betime, and elect a king amongst them that might deraine them to battaile, and vnder whose colours they might march against these birdes of a feather, that had so colleagued themselues togither to destroy them.

Who this king should bee, beshackled the yrtwits, and layd them a dry ground euery one. No rauening fish they would putte in armes, for feare after he had euerted their foes, and flesht himselfe in bloud, for interchange of diet, hee woulde rauen vp them.

Some politique delegatory Scipio, or witty pated Petito, like the heire of Laertes per aphereſin, Vlyſſes, (well knowne vnto them by his prolixious seawandering, and dauncing on their toptlesse tottering hilles) they would single forth, if it might bee, whom they might depose when they list, if he should begin to tyranize, and such a one as of himselfe were able to make a sound partie if all fayled, and bid base to the enemie with his owne kindred and followers.

None woonne the day in this but the Herring, whom altheir clamorous suffrages faluted with Vive le roy, God sauе the King, God sauē King, sauē only the Playſe and the Buite, that made wry mouthes at

him

him, and for their mocking haue wry mouthes euer since, and the Herring euer since weares a coronet on his head, in token that hee is as he is. Whiche had the worst end of the staffe in that sea iourney or canua-zado, or whether some fowler with his nets (as this host of fethermungers were getting vp to ride double) inuolued or intangled them, or the water foules playde them false (as there is no more loue betwixt them, then betwixt saylers and land souldiours) and threw them off their backs, and lette them drowne when they were launched into the deepe, I leauet to some *Alfonsus* *Poggius* or *Aesope* to vnwrap, for my penne is tired in it: but this is notorious, the Herring from that time to this, hath gone with an army, and neuer stirres abroade without it, and when he stirrs abroad with it, he sendes out his scowts or sentinels before him, that oftentimes are intercepted, and by theyr parti-coloured liueries descried, whom the mariners after they haue tooke, vse in this sort: eight or nine times they swinge them about the maine mast, and bid them bring them so many last of Herrings as they haue swinged them times, and that shall be theyr ransome, and so throw them into the sea, againe. King by your leauet, for in your king shippe I must leauet you, and repeate how from white to redde you camelionized.

It is to bee read, or to bee heard of, howe in the Puniesship or nonage of Cerdicke sandes, when the best houses and walles there were of mudde or canuaze, or Poldauies entitlments, a Fisherman of Yarmouth having drawne so many herrings hee wist not what to do withall, hung the residue that he could not sel nor sped, in the sooty rooſe of his shad a drying: or say thus, his shad was a acbbinet in *decimo sexto*, buil-deed on foure crutches, and hee had no roome in it, but in that garret or *Excelsis* to lodge them, where if they

were drie, let them bee drie, for in the sea they had
drunke too much, and now hee would force them doo
penance for it.

The weather was colde, and good fires hee kepr,
(as fishermen, what hardnesse souer they en-
dure at sea, they will make all smoake, but they
will make amendes for it when they come to
land) and what with his fiering and smoking, or smo-
kie firing in that his narrow lobby, his herrings which
were as white as whales bone when hee hung them
vp, nowe lookt as red as a lobster. It was foure or fiue
dayes before either hee or his wife espied it, & when
they espied it, they fell downe on their knees & bles-
sed themselus, & cride, a miracle, a miracle, & with the
proclaiming it among their neighbours they could
not be content, but to the court the fisherman would,
and present it to the King, then lying at *Borrough Ca-
stle* two milc off.

Of this *Borrough Castle* because it is so auncient, and there hath bee ne a Cittie there, I will enter
into some more speciall mention. The floud Wauen-
ny running through many Townes of hie Suffolke
vp to *Bungey*, and from thence incroching neerer and
neerer to the sea, with his swining & winding it cuts
out an Iland of some amplitude, named *Louingland*.
The head Towne in that Iland is *Leystofe*, in which
bee it knowne to all men I was borne, though my
father sprang from the *Nashes* of Herefordshire.

The next Towne from *Leystofe* towardes *Yarmouth* is *Corton*, and next *Gorlston*. More inwardly on the left hande, where *Wauenly* and the riuers
Ierus mixe their waters, *Cnoberi urbs*, the Cittie of
Cnober, at this day termed *Burgh* or *Borough*, Ca-
stle, had his being.

This cittie and castle saith *Bede* and *Maister Cam-
den*, or rather M. *Camden* out of *Bede*, by the woodes
about

about it; and the driuing of the sea vppe to it, was most pleasant. In it one Furfaeus a Scot bulded a monastry, at whose perswasion Sigebert king of the east Angles, gaue ouer his kingdome and led a monasticall life there, but forth of that monastry hee was haled against his will, to incourage his subiects in their battaile against the Mercians, where he perished with them.

Nothing of that Castle saue tartered ragged walles nowe remaines, framed foure square, and ouer-grown with briars and bushes, in the stubbing vp of which, erst whiles they digge vppe Romane coynes, and boories and anchors. Well, thither our Fisher man set the best legge before, and vnfardled to the King, his whole sachel of wonders. The King was as superstitious in worshipping those miraculous herrings as the fisherman, licenceid him to carry thē vp & downe the realme for strange monsters, giuing to Cerdik sands (the birth place of such monstrosities) many priuileges, and in that the quantitie of them that were caught so encreased, he assigned a broken sluce in the Iland of Louingland, called Herring Fleete, where they shoulde disburden and discharge their boates of them, and render him custome. Our Herring smoker hauing worn his monsters stale throughout England, spirted ouer seas to Rome with a Pedlers packe of thē in the Papall chaire of *Vigilius*, he that first instituted Saints eeuues or Vigils to be fasted. By that time hee came thither, he had but three of his Herrings left, for by the way he fell into the theeuish hands of malcontents, and of launceknightes, of whom he was not only robbed of all his mony, but was faine to redeeme his life besides with the better parte of his ambry of burnishit fishes.

These herrings three he rubbed, and curried ouer booye

till his armes aked againe, to make them glowe and
glare like a Turkie brooch, or a London Vintners
signe, thicke iagged, and round fringed, with the am-
ing Arsfadine, and folding them in a diaper napkin
as lilly white as a Ladies marrying smocke, to the mar-
ket steade of Rome he was so bold as to prefer them,
and there on a hie stoole, vnbraced and vnlaceid them,
to any chapmans eie that woulde buye them. The
Popes caterer casting a lickerous glaunce that way, as-
ked what it was he had to sell: the king of fishes hee
answered: the king of fishes replied hee, what is the
price of him? A hundred duckats he tolde him: a hun-
dred duckats quoth the Popes caterer, that is a kingly
price indeede, it is for no priuate man to deale with
him: then hee is for mee sayd the Fisherman, and so
vnsheathed his cuttle-bong, and from the nape of
the necke to the taile dismembred him, and pauncht
him vp at a mouthfull. Home went his Beatitudes ca-
terer with a flea in his eare, and discoursed to his Ho-
liness what had happened. Is it the king of fishes?
the Pope frowningly shooke him vp like a catte in a
blanket, and is any man to haue him but I that am
king of kings, and lord of lords? Go giue him his price
I commaund thee, and lette mee taste of him inconti-
nently. Backe returned the Caterer like a dogge that
had lost his taile, and powred downe the herringmer-
chant his hundred ducats for one of those two of the
king of fishes vnsolde, which then he would not take,
but stooode vpon twoo hundred. Thereuppon they
broke off, the one vrging that he had offered it him so
before, and the other, that hee might haue tooke him
at his proffer, which since he refused, and now halperd
with him: as he eate vp the first, so would he eate vpp
the second, and let Pope or patriarch of Constantino-
ple fetch it out of his belly if they could: Hee was as

good

good as his word, and had no sooner spoke the worde, but he did as he spoke. With a heauy heart to the pal-
lace the yeoman of the mouth departed, and rehear-
sed this second il successse, wherwith Peters successour
was so in his mulliegrums that he had thought to haue
buffeted him, & cursed him with bell book & candle,
but he ruled his reasō, & bade him, thogh it cost a mil-
lion, to let him haue that third that rested behinde, and
hie him expeditely thither, lest some other snatched it
vp, and as fast from thence againe, for hee swore by
his triple crowne, no crumme of refection woulde he
gnaw vpon, till he had sweetened his lippes with it.

So said, so done, thither he flew as swift as Mercury, and threw him his two hundred ducats, as hee before demaunded. It would not fadge, for then the market
was raised to three C. and the Caterer grumbling
thereat, the fisher swayne was forward to fettle him to
his tooles, and tire vpon it, as on the other two, had not
he held his hands, and desired hym to keep the peace
for no mony should part them : with that speech hee
was quallified, and pursed the three hundred ducats,
and deliuered him the king of fishes, teaching hym
how to geremumble it, sawce it, and dresse it, and so
sent him away a glad man. All the Popes cookes in
their white sleeues and linnen aprons met him middle
way, to entertaine and receyue the king of fishes, and
together by the eares they went, who shoulde first
handle him or touch him: but the clarke of the kichin
appeased that strife, and would admit none but him
selfe to haue the scorching and carbonadoing of it,
and he kissed his hand thrice, and made as many Hum-
blessores hee woulde finger it: and such obeysances
performed, he drest it as he was enioyned, kneeling
on his knes, and mumbling twenty aue Maryes to
hymselfe in the sacrificizing of it on the coales, that his
dili-

diligent seruice in the broyling and combustion of it, both to his kingship and to his fatherhood might not seeme vineritorious. The fire had not perst it, but it being a sweaty loggerhead greasie sowter, endigeond in his pocket a tweluemonth, stunk so ouer the popes pallace, that not a scullion but cryed foh, and those which at the first flocked the fastest about it, now fled the most from it, and sought more to rid theyr handes of it, than before they sought to blesse theyr handes with it. Wyth much stopping of theyr noses, between two dishes they stued it, and serued it vp. It was not come wythin three chambers of the Pope, but he smelt it, and vpon the smelling of it enquiring what it should be that sent forth such a puissant perfume, the standers by declared that is was the king of fishes: I conceyted no lesse sayde the Pope, for lesse than a king he could not be that had so strong a sent, and if his breath be so strong, what is he hymself? like a great king, like a strong king I will vse hym, let hym be carried backe I say, and my Cardinalls shall fetch hym in with dirge and processions vnder my canopy.

Though they were double and double weary of hym, yet his Edict being a lawe, to the kitchin they returned him, whither by and by the whole Colledge of scarlet Cardinalles, wyth theyr crosiers, theyr censors, their hosts, their *Agnus deies* and crucifixes, flocked together in heapes as it had beene to the conclaue or a generall counsaile, and the senior Cardinall that stood next in election to bee Pope, heaued him vp from the Dresser with a dirge of *De profundis natus est rex rex* he should haue sayd, and so haue made true latine, but the spirable odor & pestilent steame ascending from it, put him out of his bias of congruity, & as true as the truest latin of *Priscian* would haue quazened him, like the dampc that tooke both *Bell* and

and Baram away, and many a woorthy man that day, it hee had not beene protected vnder the Popes canopy, and the other Cardinalles with theyr holi-watter sprinkles, quencht his foggy fume and euapora-ting. About and about the inward and base court they circumducted him, with *Kirielyson* and *Halleluiah*, and the chaunters in their golden copes and white surplesles, chaunted it out aboue *gloria patri*, in pray-
sing of him, the Organs playde, the Ordonance at the Castle of Saint *Angelos* went off, and all wind in-
struments blew as loude as the winde in winter, in his passado to the Popes ordinary or dining cham-
ber, where hauing sette him downe, vpon their fa-
ces they fell flatte, and lickt euery one his ell of dust,
in douking on all foure vnto him.

The busie epitasis of the comedy was, when the dishes were vncouered, and the swarthutter sowre tooke ayre, for then hee made such an ayre, as *Alcides* himselfe that clensed the stables of *Agens* nor any hostler was able to endure.

This is once, the Pope it popt vnder boord, and out of his pallace worse it scared him then *Neptunes* *Phocases*, that scard the horses of *Hippolitus*, or the harpies *Jupiters* dogges sent to vexe *Phineus*; the Cardinalles were at their *ora pro nobis*, and held this suffo-
cation a meete sufferance for so contemning the king of fishes and his subiects, and fleshly surfetting in their cariuallles. Negromantick sorcery, negroman-
ticke sorcerie, some euill spirit of an heretique it is, which thus molesteth his Apostoliqueship. The fri-
ars and munkes caterwawled from the abbots and priors to the nouices, wherfore *tanquam in circo*, wee will townse him in a circle, and make him tell what *Laterneman*, or groome of *Hecates* close stoole hee is, that thus nefariously and proditoriously proph-

ning & penetrates our holy fathers nostils, what needes there any more ambages, the ringoll or ringed circle was compast and chalkt out, and the king of fishes by the name of the king of fishes, coniured to appeare in the center of it, but surd cantant absurd, sue surdum incantant fratres sordidi, hee was a king absolute, and would not be at euery mans cal, & if frier Pendela and his fellowes had any thing to say to him, in his admiral court of the sea, let them seek him, and neither in Hull, Hell, nor Halifax.

They seeing that by theyr charmes and spels they could spell nothing of him, fell to a more charitable suppose, that it might bee the distressed soule of some king that was drownd, who being long in Purgatorie, and not releued by the praiers of the church, had leaue in that disguised forme, to haue egress and regresse to Rome, to craue theyr beneuolence of dirges, trentals, and so foorth, to helpe him onward on his iourney to Limbo patrum or Elisum, and because they would not easily beleue what tortures in purgatory hee had sustainted, vnlesse they were eye-witneses of them, hee thought to represent to all theyr serues the image and Idea of his combustion and broyling there, and the horrible stinch of his sins accompanying both vnder his frying and broyling on the coles in the Popes kitchin, & the intollerable smel or stink he sent forth vnder either. Una voce in this splene to Pope Vigilius they ran, and craued that this king of fishes might first haue Christian buriall, next, that hee might haue masses sung for him, and last, that for a saint hee would canonize him. All these hee graunted, to bee ridde of his filthy redolence, and his chiefe casket wherein he put all his iewelles, hee made the coffin of his enclosure, and for his ensaining, looke the Almanack in the beginning of Aprill,

and

and see if you can finde out such a saint as Saint *Gildarde*, which in honour of this gilded fish the Pope so ensainted: nor there hee rested and stopt, but in the mitigation of the very embers wheron he was sindged, that after he was taken of them, fumed most fulsomly of his fatty droppings) hee ordained ember weekes in their memory, to be fasted euerlastingly.

I had well neig forgot a speciall poynt of my Romish history, & that is how Madam *Celina Cornificia*, one of the curiosest curtizans of Rome, when the fame of the king of fishes was canon-rored in her eates, shee sent all hir iewells to the iewish lumbarde to pawn, to buy and encaptiue him to her trenchour, but her purueyour came a day after the faire, & as he came, so hee farde, for not a scrap of him but the cobs of the two Herrings the Fisherman had eaten remained of him, and those Cobbes, rather than hee woulde go home wyth a sleueless answere, he bought at the rate of fourescore ducats (they were rich cobbes you must rate them) and of them all cobbing countrey chuffes which make their bellies and their bagges theyr Gods are called riche Cobbes. Euerie manne will not clappe hands to this tale, the Norwichers inprimis, who say, the first gilding of Herrings was deducted from them: and after this guise they tune the accent of theyr speech, how that when *Castor* was *Norwich* (a Towne twoo mile beyond this *Norwich*, that is termed to this day *Norwich Castor*, and hauing monuments of a castle in it enuironing fifty acres of ground, and ringbolts in the walles whereto shippes were fastned) our *Norwich* now vpon her leggs was a poore fisher towne, and the sea spawled and springed vp to her common stayres in *Confur streete*.

All this may passe in the Queenes peace, and no man say bo to it: but bawwaw quoth *Bagshaw* to that

*Gildarde**Embarassures*

which drawlacheth behinde, of the first taking of her-
rings there, and currying and guylding them amongst
thē, wherof if they could whisper to vs any simple like-
lihood, or rawbord carcasse of reason, more than their
imaginary dreame of Guilding crosse in theyr parish
of S. Sauours (now stumpt vp by the rootes) so na-
med, as they would haue it, of the smoaky guilding of
herrings there first inuented, I could wel haue allowed
of, but they must bring better cardes ere they winne
it from Yarmouth.

As good a toy to mocke an ape was it of hym that
shewed a country fellow the red sea, where all the red
Herrings were made (as some places in the sea where
the sunne is most transpercing, and beates wyth his
rayes feruentest, will looke as red as blood:) and the
ieast of a Scholler in Cambridge, that standing ang-
ling on the towne bridge there, as the country people
on the market day passed by, secretly bayted his hook
wyth a red Herring wyth a bell about the necke, and
so conueyng it into the water that no man perceiued
it, all on the sodayn, when he had a competent throng
gathered about hym, vp he twicht it agayne, and layd
it openly before them, whereat the gaping rurall
fooles, driven into no lesse admiration than the com-
mon people about Londō some few yeares since were
at the bubbling of Moore-ditch, fware by their chri-
stendomes that as many dayes and yeeres as they had
lived, they never sawe such a myracle of a red herring
taken in the fresh-water before. That greedy seagull
ignorance is apt to deuoure any thing. For a new Mes-
sias they are ready to expect of the bedlam hatmakers
wife by London bridge, he that proclaymes hymselfe
Elias, and sayeth he is inspired wyth mutton and por-
ridge, and with them it is currant, that Don Sebastian
king of Portugall (slayne twenty yeares since wyth

Stukely

Stukeley at the battell of Alcazar) is rayfed from the dead like Lazarus, and aliue to be scene at Venice. Let them looke to themselues as they will, for I am theirs to gull them better than euer I haue done, and this I am sure I haue deſtributed gudgeon dole amongſt them, as Gods plenty as any ſtripling of my ſlender portion of witte farre or neere. They needes will haue it ſo, much good do it them, I can not doe wythall: For if but careleſly betwixt ſleeping and waking I write I knowe not what againſt plebeian Publicans and ſinners (no better than the ſworne brothers of candleſticke turners and tinkers) and leaue ſome termes in ſuſpence that my poſt-haſte want of argent will not giue mee elbowe roome enough to explane or examine as I would, out ſteps me an infant ſquib of the Innes of Court, that hath not halfe greaſed his dining cappe, or ſcarce warmed his Lawyers cushion, and he to approue hymſelfe an extrauagant ſtatesman catcheth hold of a rush, and abſolutely concludeth, it is meant of the Emperour of Ruscia, and that it will utterly marre the traffike into that country if all the Pamphlets bee not called in and ſuppreſſed, wherein that libelling word is mentioned. An other, if but a head or a tayle of any beaſt, he boasts of in his crest or his ſcutcheon, be reckoned vp by chauice in a volume where a man hath iuſt occaſion to reckon vp all beaſts in armory, he ſtraiſt engageth hymſelfe by the honor of his house, and his neuer reculed ſword to thresh downe the hayry rooſe of that brayne that ſo ſeditiouſly mutined againſt hym with the mortiſerous baſtinado, or caſt ſuſh an vncurable Italian trench in his face, as not the baſeſt creeper vpon pat-tems by the high way ſide, but ſhall abhor him worse than the carrion of a dead corſe, or a man hanged vp in gibbets.

I will deale more boldly, & yet it shall be securelie, and in the way of honestie, to a number of Gods fooles, that for their wealth might be deep wise men, and so foorth (as now a daies in the opinion of the best lawyers of England there is no wisedome without wealth, alleadge what you can to the contrarie of all the beggarly sages of greece) these I say out of some discourses of mine, which were a mingle mangle cum purre, and I knew not what to make of my selfe, haue fift out such a deepe politique state meaning as if I had al the secrets of court or common-wealth at my fingers endes. Talke I of a beare, O it is such a man that emblazons him in his armes, or of a woolfe, a fox, or a camelion, any lording whom they do not affect, it is meant by. The great potentate stirred vppe with those peruerse applications, not looking into the text it selfe, but the ridiculous comment, or if hee lookest into it, followes no other more charitable comment then that, straite thunders out his displeasure, & shewres downe the whole tempest of his indignation vpon me, and to amend the matter, and fully absoluē himselfe of this rash error of misconstruēing, he commits it ouer to be prosecuted by a worse misconstruer then himselfe, *videlicet*, his learned counsaile (God forgiue me if I slander them with that title of learned, for generally they are not) and they being compouned of nothing but vociferation and clamour, rage & fly out they care not howe against a mans life, his person, his parentage, twoo houres before they come to the poynt, little remembiring their owne priuy scapes with their landresses, or their night walkes to Pancredge, togither with the hobnaylde houses of their carterly ancestrie from whence they are sprung, that haue coold plow-iades buttocks time out of minde, with the breath of their whistling, and with retailing their

theyr dung to manure landes, and selling strawe and chaffe, scracht vp the pence to make them gentlemen. But Lord howe miserably do these Ethnicks when they once march to the purpose, set words on the tenters, neuer reading to a period (which you shal scarce find in thirtie sheetes of a lawyers declaration) whereby they might comprehend the intire sence of the writer together, but disioynt and teare euery sillable betwixt their teeth severally, and if by no meanes they can make it odious, they wil be sure to bring it in disgrace by ilfaoured mouthing and misounding it. These bee they that vse mens writings like bruite beasts, to make them draw which way they list, as a principall agent in church controuersies of this our time complaineth. I haue red a tale of a poore man and an aduocate, which poore man complained to the King of wrong that the aduocate hadde doone him, in taking away his cow. The king made him no answere but this, that hee woulde sende for the aduocate, and heare what hee could say. Nay quoth the poore man, if you bee at that passe that you wil pawse to heare what he wil say, I haue vtterly lost my cowe, for hee hath woords inough to make fooles of teme thousand. So hee that shal haue his lines bandied by our vsuall plodders in Fitzherbart, lette him not care whether they bee right or wrong : for they will writhe and turne them as they list, and make the author beleue he meant that which hee never did meane : and for a knitting vp conclusion, his credite is vnrepriueably lost, that on bare suspicio in such cases, shal but haue his name controuerted amongst the, & if I should fall into their handes, I would be pressed to death for obstinate silence, and neuer seeke to cleare my selfe, for it is in vaine, since both they will confound a mans memory wyth their tedious babbling.

and

and in the first three wordes of his *Apology* with impudent exclamations interrupt him, whenas their mercenary tongues (lie they never so lowdly) without checke or controule must haue their free passage for five houres together.

I speake of the worser sort, not of the best, whom I holde in high admiration, as well for theyr singular gifts of art and nature, as theyr vntaynted consciences wyth corruption: and from some of them I auowc I haue heard as excellent things flowe, as euer I obserued in Tully or Demosthenes. Those that were present at the arraignmēt of Lopus, (to insist in no other particular) hereof I am sure will beare me record. Latelesse dolts saturnine heauy headed blunderers, my inuictiue hath relation, to such as count al Artes pup-pet-playes, and pretty rattles to please children, in comparison of their confused barbarous lawe, which if it were set downe in any christian language, but the Getan tongue it would never grieue a man to studie it.

Neyther *Ouid* nor *Ariosto* coulde by any perswasions of their parents be induced to study the Ciuiti lawe for the harshnesse of it, how much more, (had they bin aliue at this day, and borne in our nation) woulde they haue consented to study this vnciuill Norman hot-potch, this sow of lead, that hath never a ring at the end to lift it vp by, is without head or foote, the defore medest monster that may bee. I stand lawing heere what with these lawyers, and selfe-conceited misinterpreters so long, that my redde herring which was hot broyling on the coles, is waxt starke cold for want of blowing. Haue with them for a riddle or two, onely to set their wittes a nibbling, and their iobbernowles a working, and so good night to their segniories, but with this indentment and caution, that though there

be

be neither time nor reason in it, (as by my good will there shal not) they according to their aecustomed gentle fauors, whether I wil or no, shall supply it with either, and runne ouer al the peeres of the land in peccuall moralizing and anatomizing it.

There was a Herring, or there was not, for it was but a cropshin, one of the refuse sort of herrings, and this herring or this cropshin was sensed and thurified in the smoake, and had got him a suit of durance, that would last longer then one of Erra Paters Almanacks, or a constables browne bill, onely his head was in his tayle, and that made his breath so strong, that no man could abide him. Well, he was a Triton of his time, and a sweete singing calander to the state, yet not beloued of the shoury Pleyades or the Colossus of the sunne, howeuer hee thought himselfe another *tumidus Antimachus*, as compleate an *Adelantado* as hee that is knowne by wearing a cloake of tuftaffaties eighteene yeare, and to Lady *Turbut* there is no demurre but he would needs goe a wooing, and offered her for a dowre whole hecatombs and a twoo-hand-sword, shee starde vpon him with *Megaras* eyes, like *Iris* the messenger of *Juno*, and bad him goe ate a foolcs head and garlick, for she would none of him, thereupon particularly strictly and vsually he replied, that though thunder nere lights on *Pbæbus* tree, and *Amphion* that worthy musition, was husband to *Niobe*, and there was no such acceptable incense to the heauens as the bloud of a traitour, reuenged hee would bee by one *Chimera* of imagination or other, and haue her and embtake her in those mortal straights for his disdain, that in spite of divine sumniety & miniature, into her bnskie groue shee shold let him enter, and bid adew sweete Lord, or the crampc of death should wrest her heart strings, but of toke at diuine to toller

This speech was no spicable odor to the ~~whetstone~~
of her audience, wherefore she charged him by the
extreame lineaments of the Erimanthian beare, and
by the priuy fistula of the *Pierides*, to committe no
more such excruciating sillables to the yeelding ayre,
for she would sooner make her a French hood of a
cowsharde, and a gowne of spiders webbes, with the
sleeues drawn out with cabbages, then be so contami-
nated any more with his abortiue loathely motiues:
With this in an olympick rage, he calleth for a cleane
shirt, and puttes on fiue paire of buskins, and seeketh
out eloquent *Zenophon*, out of whose mouth the Mu-
ses spake, to declaine in open Courte against
her.

The action is entred, the complaint of her wan-
tered browes presented, of a violent rape of his heart
shee is indited and conuinced. The circumstaunce
that followes you may imagine or suppose: or with-
out supposing or imagining, I will tell you, the nutte
was crackt, the strife discult, and the center of her
heart layd open, and to this wild of sorrowes and ex-
cruciament she was confined, either to bee helde a
flat thorniebacke, or sharpe pricking dog-fish to the
weale publique, or seale her selfe close to his sealed
skind riueld lippes, and suffer her selfe as a spi-
rit to be coniured into the hellish circle of his embrac-
ces.

It would not be good cropshin, Madam *Turbut*
could not away with such a drie withched carkasse to
lie by her, *currat rex, vivat rex*, come what would, shee
wouldnone of him, wherfore as a poysoner of man-
kind with her beautie, she was adiudged to be boyled
to death in hot scalding water, and to haue her poste-
ritie throughly sawst and sowst and pickled in bar-
zelles of brinish teares, so ruthfull and dolorous, that

the inhabitants on *Bosphorus* should bee laxative in
deploring it. Of for a Legion of mice-eyed deciphe-
ters and calculators vpon characters, now to aug-
ment what I meane by this; the diuell, if it stood vpon
his saluation cannot do it, much lesse petty diuels, and
cruell Rhadamants vpon earth, (else where in
France and Italy *subintelligitur*, and not in our aspici-
ous Iland climate) men that haue no meanes to pur-
chase credit with theyr Prince, but by putting him
still in feare, and beating into his opinion, that they
are the onely preseruers of his life, in sifting vp night
and day in sifting out treasons, whē they are the most
traytors themselues, to his life, health, and quiet, in
continual commacerating him with dread and terror,
when but to gette a pension, or bring him in theyr
debt next to God, for vpholding his vital breath, it is
neither so, nor so, but some foole, some drunken man,
some madde man in an intoxicate humour hath vtter-
red hee knewe not what, and they beeing starued for
intelligence, or want of employmēt, take hold of it
with tooth and nayle, and in spite of all the wayters,
will violently breake into the kings chamber, and a-
wake him at midnight to reueale it.

Say that a more piercing Linceus sight should diue
into the intrailes of this insinuating parasites knaucry;
to the strapado and the stretching torture, hee will
referre it for triall, and there eyther teare him limbe
from limbe, but hee will extract some capitall
confession from him, that shal concerne the Princes
life, and his crowne and dignity, and bring him-
selfe in such necessary request about his prince, as
hee may holde him for his right hand, and the onely
staffe of his royalty, and thinke hee were vndoone if
hee were without him, when the poore fellow so ty-
rannously handled, would rather in that extremitie of

conuulsion, confess hee crucified Iesu Christ, then abide it any longer. I am not against it, (for God for-
bid I should) that it behoues all loyall true subiects
to bee vigilant and iealous for their princes safetie,
and certaine too iealous and vigilant ofit they cannot
bee, if they bee good princes that raigne over them,
nor vse too many meanes of disquisition by tortures,
or otherwise to discouer treasons pretended against
them, but vpon the least wagging of a straw to put
them in feare where no feare is, and make a hurlibur-
lie in the realme vpon had I wist, not so much for a-
ny zeale or loue to their princes, or tender care of
theyr preseruation, as to picke thankes, and curry a
little fauour, that thereby they may lay the founda-
tion to build a fute on, or crosse some great enemie
they haue, I will maintaine it is most lewd and dete-
stable, I accuse none, but such there haue beeene be-
longing to Princes in former ages, if there bee not at
this houre.

Stay, let me looke about, where am I in my text, or
out of it? not out for a groate: out for an angell, nay
I'le lay no wagers, for nowe I perponder more sadlie
vpon it, I thinke I am outindeede. Beare with it, it
was but a pretty parenthesis of Princes and theyr
parasites, which shall doo you no harme, for I will
cloy you with Herring before wee part.

Will you haue the other riddle of the cropshin to
make vppe the payre that I promised you, you shall
you shall (not haue it I meane) but beare with mee,
for I cannot spare it, and I perswade my selfe you
wil be well contented to spare it, except it were bet-
ter then the former, and yet I pray you what faule can
you finde with the former, hath it any more fence in
it then it should haue? is it not right of the merry cob-
lers cutte in that witty Play of the Case is altered.

o I will speake a proude word (though it may bee counted arrogancy in me to pray for mine owne stresse) if it bee not more absurde then *Philips his Venus, the white Tragedie, or the greene Knight*, or I can tell what English to make of it in part or in whole. I wish in the foulest weather that is, to goe in cutte spanish leather shooes, or silke stockings, or to stand barchead to a nobleman, and not geete of him the price of a periwig to couer my bare crowne, no not so much as a pipe of Tabacco to rayse my spirites, and warming my braine.

My readers peradventure may see more into it then I can, for in comparison of them, in whatsoeuer I set forth, I am *Bernardus non vidit omnia*; as blinde as blinde Bayard, and haue the eyes of a beetle, nothing from them is obscure, they being quicker sighted then the sunne, to spic in his beames the moates that are not, and able to transforme the lightest murmurings gnat to an Elephant. Carpe, or descant they as theyr spleene moues them, my spleene moues me not to file my handes with them, but to fall a crash more to the redde herring.

Howe many bee there in the worlde that chidly deprauet Alchumy, and cannot spell the first letter of it; in the black booke of which ignorant band of scorchers, it may be I am scorde vp with the highest, if I be, I must intreate them to wipe me out, for the red herring hath lately beeene my ghostly father to convert me to their fayth: the *probatum* eft of whose transfiguration *ex Lumen Salem*, from his duskie tynne hew into a perfitt golden blandishment, onely by the foggy smoake of the grossest kind of fire that is, illumines my speculative soule, what muche more, not sophisticate or superficiall effects, but absolute essentiaall alterations of mettalles there may bee

made by an artificiall repurified flame, and diuerte other helpe of nature added besides.

Cornelius Agrippa maketh mention of some Philosophers that held the skinne of the sheepe that bare the golden fleece, to be nothing but a booke of Alcumy written vpon it, so if wee should examine matters to the proofe, wee shoulde finde the redde Herrings skinne to be little lesse: the accident of Alcumy I will sweare it is, be it but for that experiment of his smoaking alone, and which is a secret that all

Tapsters will curse mee for blabbing, in his skinne there is plaine witchcraft, for doe but rubbe a kanne or quartre pot round about the mouth wyth it, let the cunningest lickerpigget swelt his heart out, the beere shal never foame or froath in the cupp, whereby to deceyue men of their meaure, but be as settled as if it stode al night.

Next, to draw on hounds to a sent, to a redde herring skinne there is nothing comparable. The round or cobbe of it dride and beaten to powlder is ipse ille agaynst the stonc: and of the whole body of it selfe, the finest Ladies beyond seas frame their kickshawes.

The rebel lacke Cade was the first that deuised to put redde herrings in cades, and from hym they haue their name. Nowe as wee call it the swinging of herrings when hee cade them, so in a halter was hee swung, and trussed vpp as hard and round as any cade of herring he trussed vpp in histyme, and perhappes of his being so swung and trussed vp, hauyn g first found out the tricke to cade herring, they woulde so much honour him in his death, as not onely to call it swinging, but cading of herring also. If the text will beare this, we wil force it to beare more, but it shall be but the weight of a strawe, or the weight of lacke Straw more, who with the same *Greca fide* I marted

vnto

unto you the former, was the first that putte the redde herring in straw ouer head and ears like beggars, & the Fishermen vpon that Jacke strawd him euer after: & some, for he was so begarly a knaue that challenged to be a gentleman, and had no witte nor wealth but what hee got by the warme wrapping vp of herring, raised this Prouerbe of him, *Gentleman Jacke Herring that putteth his breeches on his head for want of wearing.* Other disgraceful prouerbes of the herring there be, as, *Nere a barrell better herring: Neither flesh nor fish, nor good red herring,* which those that haue bitten with ill bargaines of either sort, haue dibbd forth in reuenge, and yct not haue them from Yarmouth, many coast towns besides it, enterprising to curry salt and pickle vp herrings, but marre them, because they want the right feate how to salt and season them. So I coulde plucke a crowe wyth Poet Martiall for calling it *putthe halec,* the scarild rotten herring, but he meant that of the fat reddy Scottish herrings, which will endure no salt, and in one moneth (beslow what cost on them you wil) waxe ramish if they be kept, whereas our embartle white herrings, flourishing with the stately brand of Yarmouth vpon them, scilicer the three halfe Lions and the three halfe fishes with the crowne ouer the head, last in long voyages, better than the redde herring, and not onely are famous at *Roan, Paris, Diepe, Cane* (whereof the first, which is *Roan*, serueth all the high countries of Fraunce with it, and *Diepe* which is the last saue one, viuetalles all *Piscardi* with it) but heere at home is made account of like a Marquesse, and receiued at court right solemy, I care not much if I rehearse to you the maner, and that is thus.

Every yeare about Lent tide, the sherifes of Norwich bake certayne herring pies (oure and twenty as

I take it) and send them as a homage to the Lorde of Caster hard by there, for lands that they hold of him, who presently vpō the like tenure, in boacing ham-
pers couered ouer with his cloth of armes, seesthem conuoyed to the court in the best equipage: at courte when they are arrived, his man rudely enters not at first, but knocketh very ciually, and then officers come and fetch him in with torch light, where hauing dis-
fraughted and vndloaded his luggage, to supper he sets him downe like a Lord, with his waxe lights before him, and hath his messe of meate allowed him with the largest, & his horses (*quatenus* horses) are prouen-
dred as epicurely: after this, some soure marke fee-
rowardes his charges is condred him, and hee ioggeth home againe merrily.

A white pickled herring: why it is meate for a Prince, Haynce Vandernecke of Roterdame (as a dutch Post informed me) in bare pickled herring layd out twenty thousand pound the last fishing: hee had lost his drinking be like, and thought to store himselfe of medicines now to recouer it.

Noble Cæsarean Charlermaine herring, *Plinie* and *Gesner* were too blame they fluberd thee ouer so negligently. I do not see why any man should enuy thee, since thou art none of these *turcenes* or *epulones*, *glutōs* or *fleshpots of Egypt* (as one that writes of the chri-
stians captiuitie vnder the Turke enstileth vs English
me) nor liuest thou by the vnyuing or euiscerating of
others, as most fishes do, or by any extraordinary filth
whatsoeuer, but as the Cameleon liueth by the ayre,
and the Salamander by the fire, so onely by the water
art thou nourished, and aught else, and must swim
as wel dead as aliue.

Be of good cheere my wearey Readers, for I have e-
spied land, as *Diogenes* said to his wearey Schollers whē
he

he had read to a waste leafe. Fishermen I hope wil not finde fault with me for fishing before the nette, or making all fish that comes to the net in this history, since as the Athenians bragged they were the first that invented wrastling: and one *Erichthonius* amongst them that he was the first that ioyned horses in collar couples for drawing, so I am the first that ever sette quill to paper in prayse of any fish or fisherman.

Not one of the Poets aforerime could give you of the sea a good word: *Ouid* sayth, *Nimium ne credite pontu,* the sea is a slippery companion take heed how you trust him; And further, *Periuri pœnas repotit ille locu,* it is a place like Hel, good for nothing but to punish periurers; with inumerable inuictimes more against it throughout in every booke.

Plautus in his *Rudens* bringeth in fishermen cowching and quaking dung wet after a storne, and complaining their miserable case in this forme, *Captamus cibum e mari, si uentus non uenit, neque quicquam capiunt est piscium, sal si lautiq; domum redimus clanculum, dormimus incanatum:* All the meate that we eat we catch out of the sea, and if there wee misse, wel washed and salted, wee shooke home to bed supperlesse: and upon the tale of it hee brings in a parasite that flowteth and boudeth them thus: *Heus uos familiagens horum, ut uinitis ut peritis?* hough you hunger starued gubbins or offilles of men, how thrive you, howe perish you, and they cringing in their neckes, like ratten, smothered in the holde, poorely replicated, *Uinimus fame, speq; sitiq;*, with hunger, and hope, and thirst wee content our selues. If you would not misconceit that I studiously intended your defamacion, you shoulde haue thicke haile shot of these.

Not the lowsie riddle wherewith fishermen constrained (some say) *Homer*, some say another Philosopher

sophier to drowne hymselfe, because he could not expound it, but should be dressed and set before you *supernagulum*, with eight score more galliarde crosse-poynts, and kickshiwinshes of giddy care-wig brains, were it not I thought you too fretfull and chollerickē with feeding altogether on salt meates, to haue the secrets of your trade in publique displayed. Will this appease you, that you are the predecessors of the Apostles, who were poorer Fishermen than you, that for your seeing wonders in the deepe, you may be the sonnes and heires of the Prophet Jonas, that you are all Caualiers and Gentlemen since the king of fishes vouchsafed you for his subiects, that for your selling smoake you may be courtiers, for your keeping of fasting dayes Friar Obseruants, and lastly, that looke in what Towne there is the signe of the three mariners, the huffe-cappest drink in that house you shal be sure of alwayes.

No more can I do for you than I haue done, were you my god-children euery one: God make you his children and keepe you from the Dunkerks, and then I doubt not but when you are driuen into harbour by soule weather, the kannes shall walke to the health of *Nashes Lenten-stuffe*, and the praise of the redde Herring, and enen those that attend vpon the pitch-kettle, will bee druncke to my good fortunes, and commendums. One boone you must not refuse mee in, (if you be *boni socij* and sweete Oliuers) that you let not your rustie swordes sleepe in their scabberds, but lash them out in my quarrell as hotely, as if you were to cut cables, or hew the main mast ouer boord, when you heare mee mangled and torne in mennes mouthes about this playing with a shettlecocke, or tossing empty bladders in the ayre.

Alas poore hungerstarued Muse, wee shall haue
some

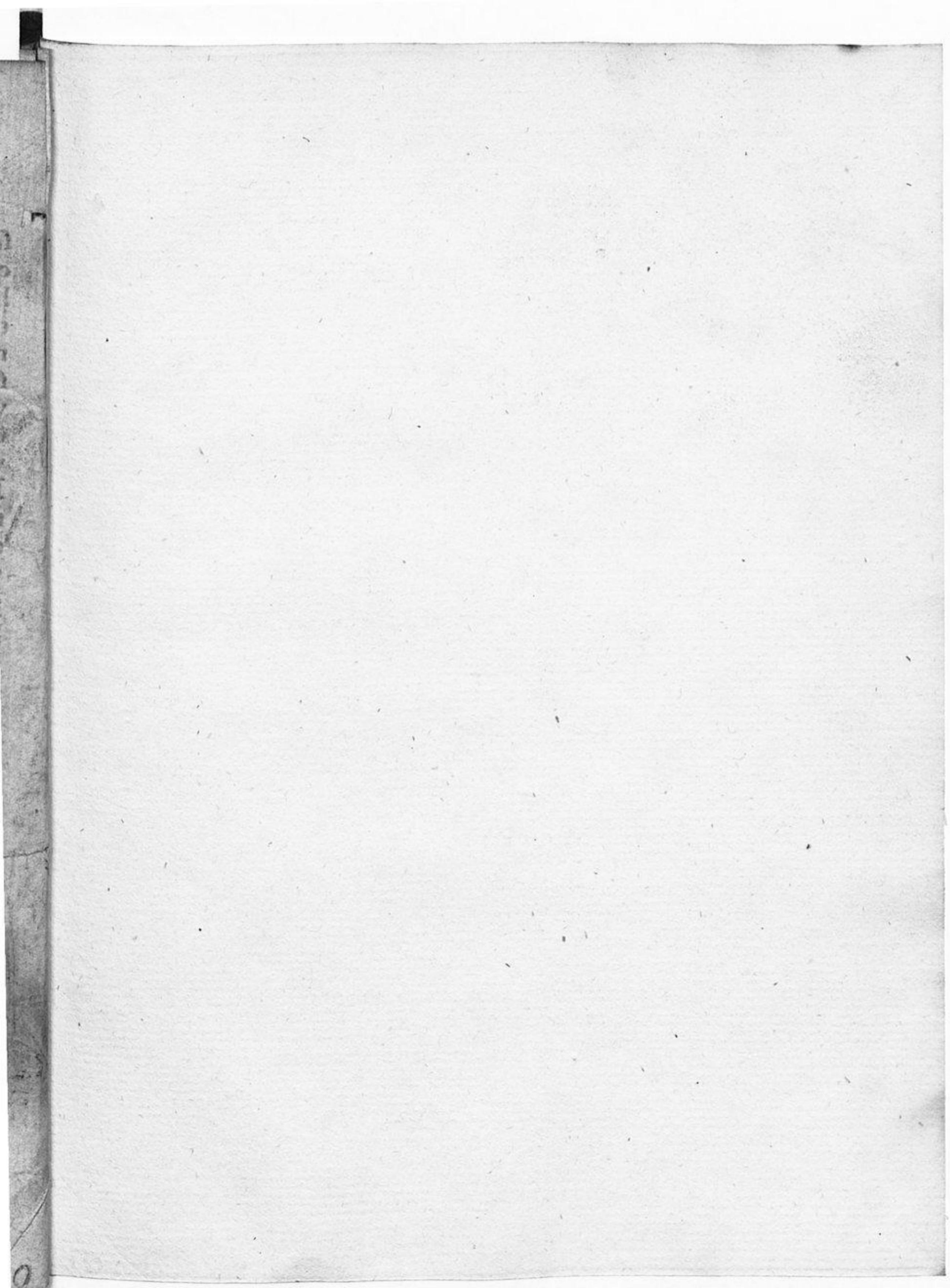
some spawne of a goose-quill or ouer worne pander
quirking and girding, was it so hard driuen that it
had nothing to feede vpon but a redde herring? ano-
ther drudge of the pudding house (all whose lawfull
meanes to liue by throughout the whole yeare will
scarce purchase him a redde herring) sayes I might as
well haue writte of a dogges turde (in his teeth surre-
uerence.) But let none of these scumme of the sub-
vrbs, be too vineger tarte with mee; for if they bee,
Ile take mine oath yppon a redde herring and eate it,
to prooue that their fathers, their grandfathers, and
their great grandfathers, or any other of their kinne,
were scullions dishwash, & durty drasse and swil set a-
gainst a redde herring. The puissant red herring, the
golden *Hesperides* red herring, the *Meonian* red her-
ring, the red herring of red Herrings Hal, euery preg-
nant peculiar of whose resplendent lande and honour,
to delineate and adumbrate to the ample life, were
a woork that would drinke drie fourescore and eigh-
teene Castalian fountaines of eloquence, consume an-
other *Athens* of facundtie, and abate the haughtiest
poeticall fury twixt this and the burning Zone, and
the tropike of Cancer. My conceit is cast into a sweat-
ing sickenesse, with ascending these few steps of his
renowne: into what a hote broyling saint Laurence
feuer would it relapse then, should I spend the whole
bagge of my winde in climbing vp to the lofty moun-
taine crest of his trophies. But no more winde will I
spend on it but this, Saint Denis for Fraunce, Saint
James for Spaine, Saint Patrike for Ireland,
Saint George for England, and the red
Herring for Yarmouth.

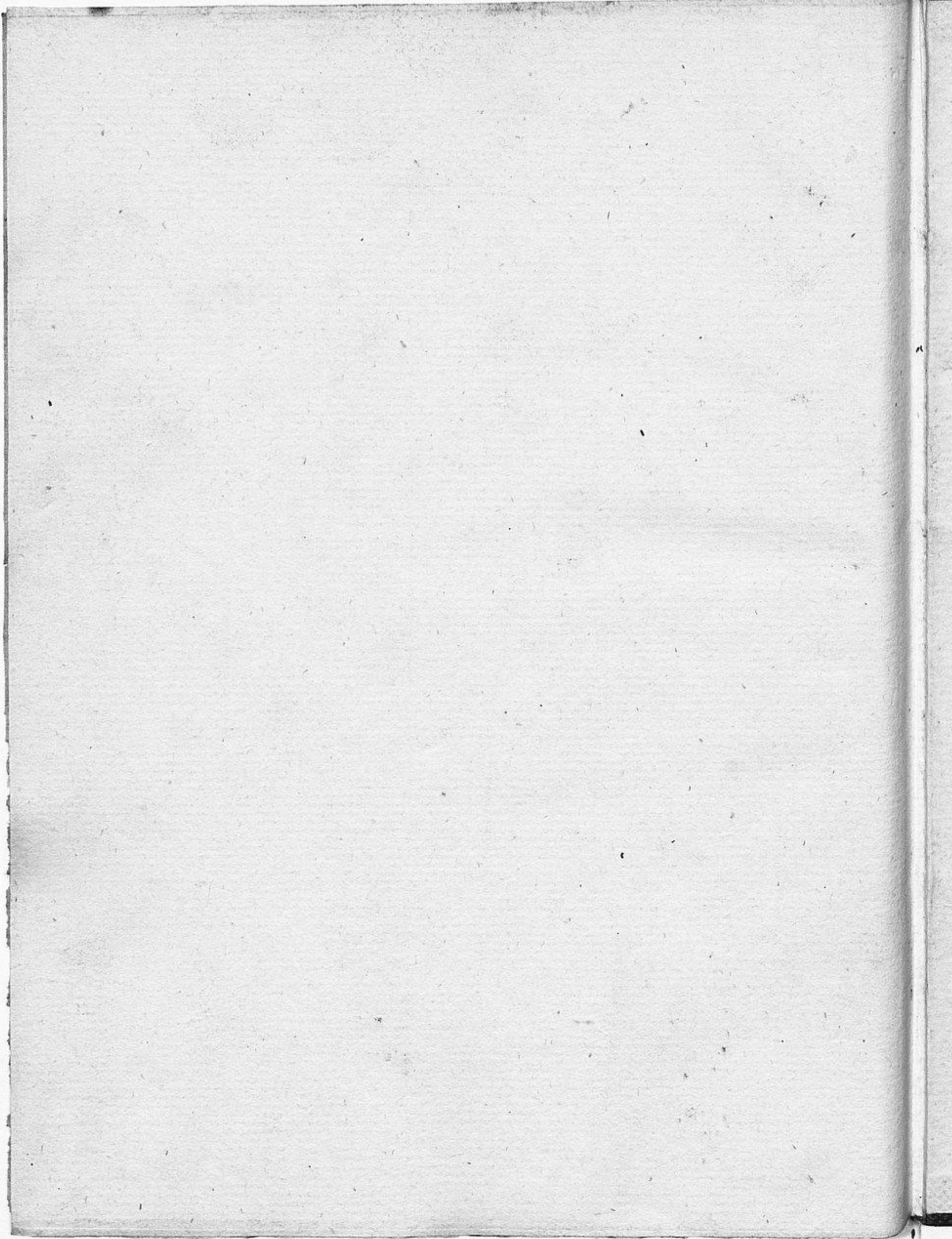
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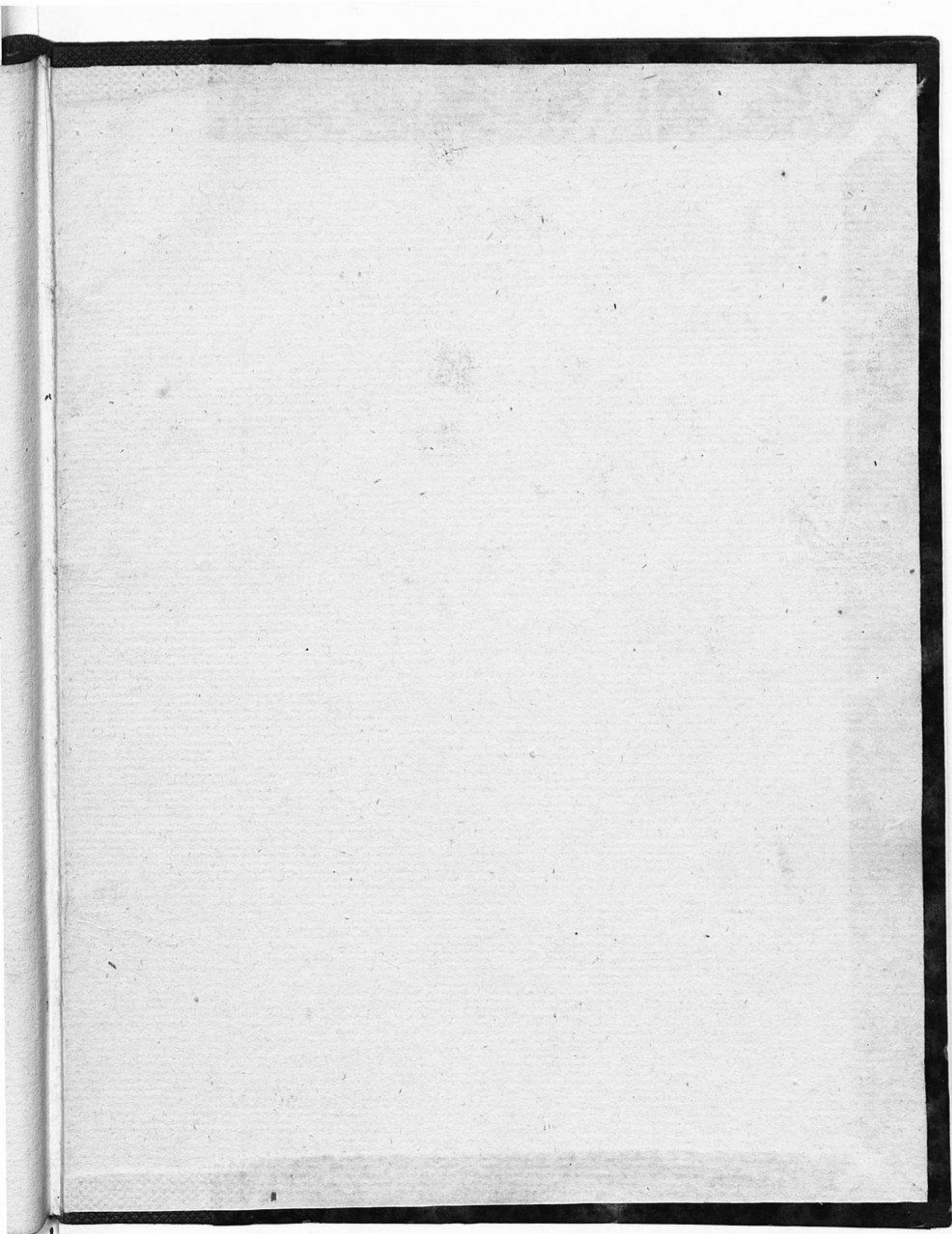
Possibilities of modernization of the Organization of the State

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